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In Paris

S. Yemen embassy hit by two rockets

PARIS, Feb. 16 (AFP) — A rocket attack which partially demolished the South Yemen embassy here early Monday was in retaliation for the bombing of a synagogue here last October, an anonymous telephone call claimed soon after the blast. Nobody was injured when two rockets hit the building in an elegant central district of Paris just after 3 a.m.

Police found two rocket launchers which had been fired by time switches from a courtyard behind the embassy. The Egyptian embassy is also nearby. The embassy name plate partly melted in the blast, but beside it the words "Remember Copernic" were clearly legible in black paint.

A bomb exploded outside a synagogue in the central Rue Copernic last Oct. 3 killing three persons and wounding almost 20 others. A worse disaster was averted as the service lasted longer than usual and most people were still inside the building. The attack was claimed by a rightwing extremist group but a police roundup of known Fascist militants revealed no lead.

A call to AFP after Monday's blast said that the rockets were "for all the Rue Saudi Arabia urges return of missing envoy

RIYADH, Feb. 16 (SPA) — Saudi Arabia Monday strongly denounced the kidnapping of Hisham Moheisen, the Jordanian charge d'affaires in Beirut, and called for cooperation to safeguard the life of innocent diplomats and others.

A government spokesman urged Lebanese security authorities to intensify efforts to find the missing diplomat and return him safe. He added that the diplomatic corps is the body defending Arab and Islamic causes.

Fahd meets officials

RIYADH, Feb. 16 (SPA) — Crown Prince Fahd Monday received Tareq Al Abdullah, acting chairman of the Iraqi Presidency Council. Tareq, who arrived here Monday on a short visit, later left Riyadh.

Crown Prince Fahd also held talks Monday with visiting foreign minister of Somalia, Abdul Rahman Jama Barre.

British miners to strike today

LONDON, Feb. 16 (R) — Leaders of 26,000 coal miners in the depressed South region voted Monday to go on strike from Tuesday in protest at government's plans to close unprofitable pits. Their action brought closer the threat of a national strike by the rest of Britain's 230,000 miners, and of a head-on clash with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government.

South Wales is the area most seriously hit by the state-owned National Coal Board's decision last week to close between 20 and 50 pits with the possible loss of up to 30,000 jobs. The imminent closure of five South Wales collieries, with the loss of 2,800 jobs, was announced at the weekend, and three or four other pits in the area are under threat.

The South Wales miners did not wait for a ballot on union leaders' recommendations for a nation-wide strike in protest at the coal board plan. They decided on an all-out strike from 6 a.m. Tuesday and their leader, Emlyn Williams, said it would last "until the threat of closure in all parts of Britain has been withdrawn."

Miners' leaders in Scotland decided Monday to recommend strike action at a mass meeting next Friday. Leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers have demanded a meeting with the government this week and are seeking more subsidies for the industry and a ban on some imports of cheap coal. Political sources said the government was considering increasing redundancy payments for miners as a move to avert a national strike.

Meanwhile, thousands of textile, garment and footwear workers Monday marched through London led by officials of 16 trade unions, calling for action against the crisis hitting their sectors. These three industries have shed 100,010 jobs.

Copernic victims" but gave no clue as to why the attackers chose south Yemen, which is a member of the Steadfastness Front which opposes peace with Israel. The embassy was closed to the public Monday and had issued no statement.

Arab organizations denounced the attack on the embassy and called on the French authorities to track down those responsible. The Paris bureau of the Arab League said the alleged motive for the attack was a reprisal against the synagogue bombing was aimed at "throwing the blame on Arab embassy for the attack in the Rue Copernic, which was unanimously deplored by all Arab leaders."

The League said such "manoeuvres" were typical of the activities of "Zionist and anti-Arab circles." The Palestine Liberation Organization's representative here, Ibrahim Suss, said the attack on the embassy coincided with "acts of provocation" against PLO offices and personnel in Paris over the past few days.

"Before this rising tide of anti-Arab racism, the PLO, which has condemned and still condemns all acts of racism and terrorism, calls on the French government to shed full light on those responsible for these criminal acts and declare its devotion to peace and its respect for French laws and institutions," Suss said.

Israel rejects Sadat's call

TEL AVIV, Feb. 16 (AP) — Israel's government Monday blasted Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's call on Palestinians in occupied lands to form a government-in-exile with the Palestine Liberation Organization. "It is an absolute, complete contradiction to the spirit of the Camp David Accords," declared Interior Minister Yosef Burg who heads Israel's delegation to autonomy negotiations for the 1.2 million Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Burg spoke to reporters after meeting with Prime Minister Menahem Begin to outline the strategy in the wake of Sadat's suspension of the talks.

Although Sadat's proposal for establishing a Palestinian shadow government is an old idea, Israeli officials were reportedly afraid that this time the Egyptian leader would make it a precondition for resuming autonomy talks.

Sadat's call was made Sunday during a meeting with the Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky.

Burg repeated Israel's position that autonomy negotiators must stick to guidelines established in the 1978 Camp David peace accords. (Sadat's call — Page II)

Nine die in crash

NEW DELHI, Feb. 16 (AFP) — At least nine persons were killed and seven injured in a collision between two trains about 75 kilometers northwest of Patna, capital of the eastern Bihar state. Official reports Monday said that an Asam-bound mail was brought to a sudden halt Sunday night by wrong channelling by some of its passengers and was hit another coming train from behind. Five bogies of the first train derailed in the accident.

Algeria to resolve gas dispute with U.S.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (R) — Algeria's role in the U.S. hostage crisis could help the two countries resolve a 10-month dispute over gas prices during negotiations this week in Algiers, a U.S. energy department spokesman said. Any final settlement to the dispute, which follows Algeria's attempt to tie its gas prices to those of oil, may influence prices of natural gas throughout the world as other exporters follow the Algerian lead, industry experts believe.

Algeria suspended gas deliveries to the U.S. importing company El Paso last April after the U.S. refused to accept a rise in the price from \$1.94 per million British thermal units (BTU) to \$2.6 per million BTU. A U.S. delegation will hold further talks on the issue in Algiers on Tuesday and Wednesday, the energy department spokesman said.



PERISHED: Venessa Combs (left) is restrained by a neighbor as she tries to enter the burning home where her mother Lela Combs perished along with her two nephews in a 2-alarm fire in Boston's Dorchester section. Neighbors say they heard an explosion just before the fire broke out. The two-story wooden frame home was completely gutted.

Iran sends message to Fahd

By Farouq Lagman

JEDDAH, Feb. 16 — A high-level Iranian official arrived here Monday with a message for Crown Prince Fahd from Prime Minister Muhammad Ali Rajai.

Hojatulsalam Gulam Hussein Haqqani told Arab News Monday that he had delivered two other messages from the Iranian prime minister to the leaders of North and South Yemen.

He said that the messages were being delivered on the occasion of the second anniversary of the Iranian revolution.

He said the visit by Rajai or any other senior leader did not arise at the moment. Haqqani ruled out any suggestion that Iran might be seeking Arab and Islamic mediation in its war with Iraq. He categorically dismissed such a possibility "because our position with regard to this war is quite clear and the only solution is the withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from our lands."

Haqqani, a member of the Consultative Council (parliament) and a member of the supreme council of information, said the two countries had signed the Algiers agreement in 1975 setting out ways and means of settling their dispute as well as of arbitration. "The agreement spelled out the settlement and appointed the Algerian head of state as an arbitrator in the event of conflicting interpretation," he said.

Asked to explain why Iran had lost the opportunity to attend the recent third Islamic summit conference in Taif and explain its viewpoint and perhaps agree to a dialogue prior to negotiations, Haqqani said the Iranian government had made it clear that they would not attend if the Iraqi President Saddam Hussein also attended. "Negotiations



Hojatulsalam Gulam Hussein Haqqani

will not do and resolutions would not lead to a right settlement," he said. "You have seen what happened to the Arabs with their disputes with Israel. All the U.N. resolutions have done nothing for you. You have refused to negotiate except on the basis of complete Israeli withdrawal from the occupied lands. Our stand is the same," he added.

Iraq, on the other hand, declared it was willing to negotiate if Iran recognized that it had been wrongly occupying Iraqi territories set out in the Algiers agreement.

Haqqani, reaffirmed the statement made by his government that "if the Islamic governments wanted to save further Muslim blood they should bring pressure to bear on Iraq to withdraw completely its troops from the occupied territories."

Two balloonists give up voyage

NEW DELHI, Feb. 16 (Agencies) — Two Americans attempting to make the first non-stop around-the-world balloon voyage have said they had been forced to abandon their journey after they began dropping height to catch air currents. Maxie Anderson, 46, and Don Ida, 47, landed their helium balloon in a field outside a village in northern India Saturday.

"To say that we are disappointed is an understatement," Anderson told reporters Sunday. Anderson, commander of the bal-

loon Jules Verne, which took off from Luxor, in Egypt, Thursday, said they had dropped height near New Delhi but could not find the currents they wanted.

"We had to make a difficult choice. It just appeared that we may not be able to make it," he told reporters. Anderson and Ida spent Saturday night in their gondola in the village 96 kms northwest of New Delhi and arrived in the Indian capital Sunday night.

A giant Indian air force helicopter picked up the gondola to an airport here.

Kuwait tells neighbors

Reject presence of superpowers

KUWAIT, Feb. 16 (AP) — Kuwait's Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah called on the Gulf states Monday to reject any superpower military presence in the region and to unite in order to foil domination efforts by the big powers. "Conflict does exist between the two superpowers to dominate the region, with each party rapidly seeking to gain influence," Prince Saad told a press conference.

"We in Kuwait are closely following these efforts by the superpowers to establish a presence in this important and vital area because of its resources, strategic position and waterways," he added.

"We are optimistic the people of the region have sufficient awareness, cooperation, coordination and understanding to foil any

attempts by the superpowers to interfere in their internal affairs either directly, he declared.

"We are determined not to permit a opportunity for any power to have any presence in the Gulf under any pretext," he added.

Kuwait is one of the Arab states of the region that decided two weeks ago to establish a cooperation council. The other participants are Saudi Arabia, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Bahrain. Prince Saad said the Gulf states "will not stand idly toward any external aggression, because foreign intervention in the area is aimed at weakening the Gulf states and eventually seize control of the region's resources." The littoral states of the Gulf produce 60 per cent of the Western world's oil supplies.

Dollar makes new gains

LONDON, Feb. 16 (R) — The dollar made hefty new gains against other currencies, including the German mark and a shaky pound sterling, in lively trading on exchange markets Monday. The U.S. currency surged to a three-and-a-quarter-year high in Frankfurt where it was fixed at midday at 2.2505 marks after 2.1915 Friday, with the West German Central Bank refusing to intervene, whereas Friday it sold \$164 million. Friday's New York closing was 2.2187 marks.

Gold was steady with a London morning fixing of \$487 an ounce, about \$6 below Friday's closing price of \$493.75.

Bullion dealers said the stronger dollar was still hurting gold, which would probably continue to drift lower unless there was some dramatic change in the world news picture.

Dealers said the dollar was buoyant for the same reasons that have pushed it ahead in recent weeks from the 1.97 marks at which it began the year — high dollar interest rates, confidence in the Reagan administration's economic plans and concern over continental currencies.

Reports that Reagan will demand drastic cuts in U.S. government spending Wednesday should continue to boost the dollar in the next few days, dealers said. But the fine print of the Reagan economic program will be carefully studied to see whether it justifies the

money markets' hopes for an early reduction in U.S. inflation and an industrial recovery later this year.

The dollar was in all-conquering form against most major currencies Monday. It soared to 2.06 Swiss francs from 2.02 Friday to 5.20 French francs from Friday's 5.11, and to 208.60 yen from 207.45. The pound sterling dropped over three cents against the powerful dollar, trading around \$2.25 London compared with Friday's closing \$2.2832.

Apart from being pressured by the strong dollar, sterling was being affected by threatened strike by the coalminers union against a planned program of pit closures, dealers said. There were fears that a strike could set off widespread industrial protests against government policies.

The pound was also hurt by reports that the Conservative government is anxious to bring it down from recent high levels and mar loosen its monetary policy, dealers said.

However, the pound remained above five marks at around 5.06. The continued weakness of the mark, which has fallen by 23 per cent against the dollar in the past year, expected to put intense pressure on the Bundesbank, the German central bank, to raise its official interest rates later this week.

ILO foresees fall in inflation

GENEVA, Feb. 16 (R) — Inflation hit double figures in most countries during 1980 but there was a glimmer of hope that the rate might eventually drop, the International Labor Organization (ILO) said Monday. A survey of 65 representative countries throughout the world showed that inflation ranged from 3.8 per cent in Switzerland to 131.5 per cent in Israel during the 12 months ended September 1980, ILO reported.

Its bulletin of labor statistics, measuring movements in the general consumer price index over the previous 12-month period, said most countries had inflation of more than 10 per cent. Notable exceptions in the industrialized world were West Germany with 5.2 per cent, Austria and the Netherlands with seven per cent each, and Japan

with 8.9 per cent.

Developing countries with the lowest rates were peninsular Malaysia with 6.2 per cent, Tunisia 8.6 per cent, Puerto Rico and the Ivory Coast, both 9.8 per cent.

Inflation in Latin America was moderate to high. In Argentina, once the world leader in inflation rates, it stood at 88 per cent by the end of last August. Mauritius had the highest rate in Africa with 48.7 per cent, and Sri Lanka topped the list in Asia with 43.3 per cent.

Data for the full calendar year 1980 indicated that inflation rates dropped slightly during the final months in Austria, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden, Britain and the U.S. while holding firm in France and rising slightly in Switzerland.

U.S. official mum on KGB trap

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (AFP) — Former United States assistant military attaché in Moscow Major James Holbrook Monday refused to comment on reports that he had been withdrawn from his post last month after the Soviet intelligence service (KGB) succeeded in trapping him in a compromising situation.

There was similar silence at the State Department, but a spokesman for Vice-President George Bush said that the major was still being considered for an appointment as an adviser to Bush — the official reason for his recall.

The reports, in *The Washington Post* and the *London Daily Telegraph*, said that the KGB had apparently wanted to recruit Major Holbrook — described as a married man with strong religious beliefs — as a spy.

The major himself wrecked the Soviet plans by informing his superiors of the inci-

dent, which occurred at the Ukrainian town of Rovno near the Polish border a month ago, the reports said.

According to the *Post*, quoting reliable sources, Major Holbrook was photographed in a compromising situation after his companion on the trip to evaluate Soviet troop readiness, Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Spence was taken ill — "probably drugged," said the *Post*.

He was then put under great pressure by Soviet officials who refused him permission to leave Rovno or telephone his embassy, the *Post* said.

According to the *Telegraph* the KGB arranged a "chance meeting" in Rovno between the major and a Soviet official he had met elsewhere. The official said he could not use in case of any difficulty and was contacted by the American when serious problems — again deliberately manufactured — arose with their travel arrangements.

Yamani's promise helps Thais solve oil problems

Authority of Thailand. The balance 35,000 barrels was purified in Singapore because, according to Summit officials, the Thai refinery did not have the capacity to handle the full purchase.

Last December, however, during the visit of Oil Minister Sheikh Yamani to Thailand, it was made clear by the government here that most of the country's oil problems stemmed from this oil purchase and distribution and it was pointed out to the Saudi Arabian minister that Thailand would do well if the oil was sold on a government-to-government basis.

Yamani, who was a guest of Industry Minister Choonhavan, promised to take up the matter on his return to Riyadh and do everything possible to help Thailand overcome its oil problems. The recent visit by the

Bangkok delegation led by Choonhavan culminated with the government here wrestling 65 per cent (65,000 barrels per day) of the oil supply from Summit. The effort is being hailed by industrialists, a good majority of Thais, and the press as the most successful task accomplished by any Thai government.

On previous occasions, that delegations have visited Riyadh in an effort to secure a direct oil deal but returned without success, though, two years ago the Saudi Arabian authorities had expressed the view that they wished to see the contract with Summit converted into a government-to-government deal.

Controversy regarding Summit's operations in Thailand erupted in 1979 when it was

found out that the company had diverted 35,000 barrels of oil purchased for Thailand to Singapore, despite the serious oil shortages here. Angered by this, the Thai government headed by Gen. Kriangsak Chomanon formed a committee to probe the visited Summit contract.

Meanwhile, in another dramatic move, the Thai government terminated the contract with Summit for lease of its refinery and gave it 42 days to wind up operations. The order signed by Deputy Defense Minister Adm. Kawee Singh pointed out that the company had violated several agreement clauses in operating the refinery. The lease of which was due to expire in 1990. Prior to the decision, Summit was plagued with strikes which led to the dismissal of some 25 workers and

other labor problems.

Monday morning, the president of Summit Industrial Corporation (Panama) C.C. Wang flew into Bangkok from New York and held talks with high-ranking officials of the company while the Thai government was preparing legal procedure to freeze all assets of the company as a first step toward transition of the management of the refinery.

It was announced that the Thai Defense Energy Department will be responsible for the refinery operation while the Petroleum Authority of Thailand will handle the marketing of oil.

Minister Choonhavan also revealed Monday that efforts were made by some officials in his ministry to undermine the Saudi Ara-

bian oil deal while he was in Riyadh. "Some sought to challenge the legitimacy of my mission by sending two telexes to Petroleum's Governor Abdul Hadi Taher that I was not empowered to handle the deal and tried to divert the contract in favor of another private company based in Hong Kong. But a timely telex by Prime Minister Gen. Prem Tinsulanonda saved the situation. Prime Minister Tinsulanonda informed Governor Taher that I had full authority and this helped me conclude the deal."

This internal conflict between Minister Choonhavan and his deputy Tansacha, who is alleged to have sent the two telexes, is expected to be resolved soon by Premier Tinsulanonda. Observers here believe it will not have any effect on the oil deal already clinched and the steps taken by the Thai government to import, refine and supply oil to its people.

By Edward Thangarajah
Arab News Correspondent

BANGKOK, Feb. 16 — Thailand will from now on buy all its oil requirements on a government-to-government basis and the country's state machinery will be geared to control the purchase, refining, supply and distribution of fuel from abroad. The dramatic and popular move, hailed by a majority of Thais as a concrete step toward establishing economic independence, has been possible thanks to Saudi Arabia which, according to a delegation led by industry minister, Chaichai Choonhavan that returned from Riyadh a few days ago, was able to clinch a deal for the supply of 65,000 barrels of crude daily.

Saudi Arabia has been supplying 100,000 barrels of crude a day to the Summit Industrial Company (Panama) which refined 65 per cent of it at the Thai government's leased out refinery and sold it to the Petroleum

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Algozaibi opens 1,010th factory

Industrial base praised

RIYADH, Feb. 16 (SPA) — Minister of Industry and Electricity Dr. Ghazi Algozaibi, acting on behalf of Riyadh Governor Prince Salman, Sunday dedicated the dairy factory of the Saudi-Irish Dairy Company set up with a SR55 million capital at Industrial Zone 11 off Al-Kharj road.

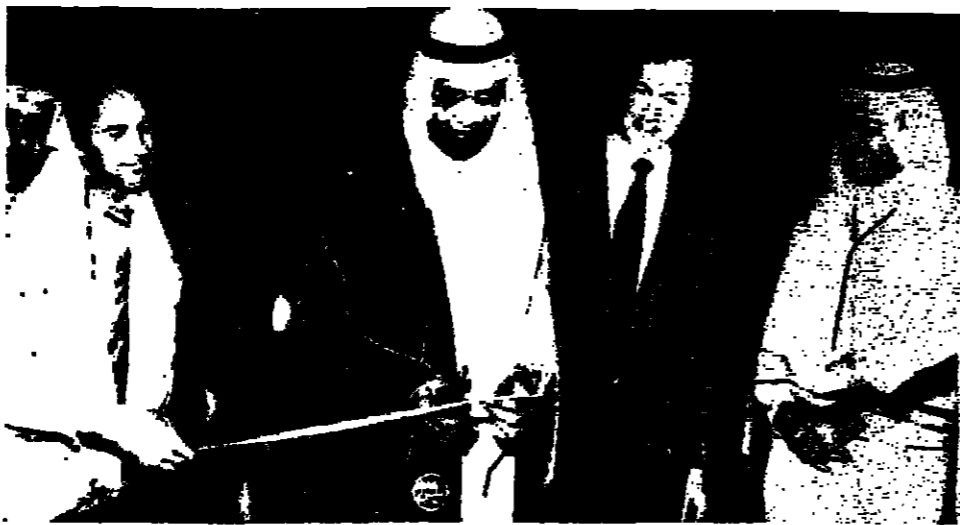
The factory will produce 50,000 liters of milk and dairy products a day and will employ 150 workers. Dr. Algozaibi announced that this was the 1,010th factory to be opened in Saudi Arabia and said, "one day we shall have a solid industrial base that we can pride ourselves with." He said that a factory used to be opened every three days under the second Five-Year-Development-Plan. "And we hope that under the third Plan a factory will be completed every two days," he added.

At the start of the second Plan, there hardly were 300 plants in Saudi Arabia in which less than SR1 billion had been invested. By the end of the plan the figure jumped to 1,000 plants in which more than SR26 billion had been invested, Dr. Algozaibi said.

Dr. Algozaibi thanked in particular Dallah-Avco company for having entered "with enthusiasm and determination" the industrial domain. He urged businessmen to follow Dallah-Avco's example and turn their attention to industry.

Taking the floor next, Planning Minister Sheikh Hisham Nazer noted that foreign investments in Saudi Arabia proved the strength of Saudi economy and the confidence which foreigners have in the country's (political and economic) stability. It also shows how active Saudi industrialists are, the minister pointed out.

The ceremony also was addressed by Michael Smith, Irish state minister for



RIBBON CUTTING: Industry and Electricity Minister Dr. Ghazi Algozaibi (left) cuts the ribbon to the Saudi Irish Dairy Company in Riyadh. Planning Minister Hisham Nazer (right) and a dairy official witness the ceremony.

agriculture, who said he was impressed by Saudi Arabia's industrial renaissance, and by Brian Joyce, director general of the Irish Dairy Corporation.

In another development, possible Saudi Dutch cooperation in industry and electricity was discussed here Sunday between Dr. Ghazi Algozaibi, minister of industry and electricity, and G.J.M. Braks, the Netherlands minister of agriculture and fisheries.

The meeting was attended by Mahmoud Taiba, governor of the General Electricity Board; Dr. Fuad Al-Faresi, industry undersecretary; and Abdul Aziz Al-Zamel, vice president and delegated member to the board

of the Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Corporations (SABIC).

Braks, who arrived here Friday on a few days' visit to the Kingdom, also reviewed a wide range of economic issues Sunday with Sheikh Muhammad Aba Al-Khail, the minister of finance and national economy. He also discussed with Planning Minister Sheikh Hisham Nazer the participation of Dutch experts in Saudi Arabia's development projects.

In the morning, Braks and the accompanying delegation, visited the Regional Center for Agricultural and Water Research and the Agriculture Training Center. He also visited a water purification plant.

BRIEFS

Hasa tree planting

HASA, Feb. 16 (SPA) — Governor Prince Muhammad ibn Jiluwi, will dedicate a tree week here Sunday in which students and volunteers will take part. Sixteen thousand plants have been collected for the purpose. Other cities have already had their tree weeks or plan to have them soon.

Farmers training

UNAIZAH, Feb. 16 — Three training courses for farmers will be launched here by the agricultural training center. They will include operating and repairing farm equipment and the protection of farms from insects and weeds.

Well water stopped

MEDINA, Feb. 16 — The municipality here has suspended the operation of 24 wells which used to supply water to the holy city. The city now receives all its water from the desalination plant in Yanbu along the Red Sea.

Farewell John West

JEDDAH, Feb. 16 — Foreign Minister Prince Saud will give a farewell party Monday in honor of the American Ambassador John West who is leaving the country Tuesday.

Food exhibition opened

RIYADH, Feb. 16 (SPA) — The Commerce Undersecretary Dr. Abdul Rahman Al-Zamel Sunday opened the Saudi Food-Stuffs Exhibition in the presence of G.J. Braks, the Dutch minister of agriculture and fisheries, currently on a visit to Saudi Arabia.

Education delegation

JEDDAH, Feb. 16 (SPA) — Dr. Abdullah Al-Zaid, director of education for the Western Province, conferred Sunday with an education delegation from the United Arab Emirates. He briefed its members on the Kingdom's primary, intermediate and secondary education plans and school construction.

Prayer Times

| Tuesday | Mecca | Medina | Riyadh | Dammam | Buraidah | Tabuk |
|---------|-------|--------|--------|--------|----------|-------|
| Fajr | 5.25 | 5.29 | 5.01 | 4.49 | 5.14 | 5.45 |
| Ishraq | 6.50 | 6.54 | 6.26 | 6.14 | 6.39 | 7.10 |
| Dhuhr | 12.35 | 12.36 | 12.07 | 11.54 | 12.18 | 12.48 |
| Assr | 3.53 | 3.52 | 3.23 | 3.08 | 3.33 | 4.01 |
| Maghreb | 6.21 | 6.18 | 5.50 | 5.35 | 5.59 | 6.27 |
| Isha | 7.51 | 7.48 | 7.20 | 7.05 | 7.29 | 7.57 |

Medina official to open Arab cities seminar

Islamic heritage on agenda

MEDINA, Feb. 16 (SPA) — Medina Governor Prince Abdul Mohsen ibn Abdul Aziz will inaugurate on Feb. 28 the first scientific seminar here on Arab cities patronized by the Arab Cities Organization.

The seminar will be attended by representatives from 18 Arab states, the Arab Cities Organization, the African Cities Organization, various universities, the Arab Urban Development Institute and a number of Saudi and foreign scholars.

The opening session also will be attended by Prince Mir'eb ibn Abdul Aziz, minister of public works and housing and acting minister of municipal and rural affairs, and other prominent personalities. High on the agenda will be the main features and personality of Arab cities and the various factors which influenced their development as well as the cities' relationship with the cultural and Islamic heritage. Delegates also will ponder over how best to develop the cities without for as much affecting the Islamic heritage.

In a separate development, a meeting was held in Riyadh Sunday evening to discuss the best methods to eliminate garbage in Saudi cities. The meeting at the headquarters of the Higher Committee for the Development of Riyadh was attended by the Mayor Sheikh Abdullah Al-Naim, Mecca Mayor Abdul Qader Koshak, Deputy Mayor of Medina Dr. Hassan Hojrah, and Maj. Gen. Yahya Al-Jassir.

COMMENT

By Muhammad Abdul Rahman Al-Yon

Assisting the needy is considered a basic obligation on every capable Muslim. We find several associations and philanthropic organizations working in Islamic societies to help the poorer class. But it becomes a matter of confidence and satisfaction when the state itself undertakes the responsibility of looking after the welfare of the needy section of the society.

Although some private circles have successfully carried out their welfare activities, it has always been the traditional view that state concern for such activities provides greater satisfaction. Taking a general view, we would see that the state organization in this field has provided enough opportunities of benefit for every needy family in the country, especially in rural and remote areas. Government agencies have adopted practical methods in the scrutiny and investigation of deserving cases to ensure that this social service is rendered to each and every needy family at the place of its residence and at the right time.

One significant aspect of social insurance is to create new ways and means for the establishment of investment projects which would benefit the needy sections of the society and their children in the future. Such projects would ensure a recurring source of livelihood and would minimize dependence on cash grants.

It is a matter of gratification that several social insurance departments are said to have successfully undertaken productive projects for the welfare of the deserving class. Their progress in such projects would undoubtedly give a new dimension to the matter of social insurance for the needy families. Investment projects would provide them opportunity to look forward to a dignified life for themselves and, after them, their family.

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Alami, an aide to the public security chief for operations and deputy mayor of Riyadh.

Discussions center on house garbage, construction, street digging waste and other refuse as recommended by two committees set up by the Ministers of Interior and Municipal and Rural Affairs. A committee spokesman said that practical solutions were proposed, including the imposition of certain regulations which all citizens will have to comply with, and new garbage collection facilities to be provided either by municipalities or by contractor companies or owners of big shops. What to do with the garbage after it has been collected also was considered by the committee.

The committee's final report and recommendation will be submitted to Prince Mir'eb and Prince Naif who will then meet and propose to the King a new system which

will become compulsory to all municipalities, the police and local companies.

Meanwhile, the sum of SR 24 million was allocated Sunday for temporary surfacing at the limited income people zone north of Palestine Street in Jeddah. Deputy Mayor of Jeddah Barakat Bajnaid said the funds will be used to asphalt 20 kilometers of street. Work on the project already started about two months ago.

Bajnaid said Jeddah officials at present are preparing a study on the city's cleanliness and the possibility of washing the main streets with liquid detergents as well as removing trash. The study proposes the incineration of garbage, its transforming into methane gas which eventually could be used in some vital projects for the country. As soon as the study is ready, a tender will be launched for the city's cleanliness, the official said.

Hajj tent substitutes considered

MECCA, Feb. 16 (SPA) — Substitutes for tents was the subject matter of a Hajj Committee meeting here Sunday under Deputy Governor of Mecca Prince Saud ibn Abdul Mohsen. Tents were found to be inconvenient and inflammable during the pilgrimage season.

The Central Pilgrimage Committee was shown various models of Saudi products which might be used as an alternative. The group also studied the various methods to make the tents fire resistant. It set up two committees to prepare detailed reports on tents' substitutes and fire resistant measures and submit them to the committee's next meeting on Feb. 26.

The substitutes to be proposed by the sub-committees will be tested during the coming pilgrimage season, Prince Saud said.

According to Ali Abul Ola, the committee's secretary and legal adviser, the committee Sunday reviewed all contractor and supplier bids for substitutes such as locally manufactured hangers made of diverse material like iron and thermal isolators. It was briefed on the areas to be covered and how many pilgrims each hanger could contain, as well as on the necessary infrastructure.

The committee's recommendations will be submitted at an early date to Interior Minister Prince Naif, its president, for quick action.

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Of decline in trade

Solaim warns American business

By a Staff Writer

AL KHOBAR, Feb. 16 — Commerce Minister Dr. Solaim A. Solaim warned a meeting of American businessmen here Monday that the American presence in Saudi Arabia has dwindled considerably.

"The absolute increase in our total imports from America between 1978 and 1979 amounted to 8.3 per cent, yet America's share in our total imports in fact declined between these two years from 20.8 per cent to 19.1 per cent. As a matter of fact, the U.S. share in total imports in 1979 (19.1 per cent) has not changed much from its 1976 level of 18.6 per cent," the minister said.

In contrast, Japan and West Germany scored gains in both absolute and relative terms, Solaim said. He added that Japan's share in the Kingdom's total imports increased from 12 per cent in 1978 to 16 per cent in 1979, and West Germany's share rose from 8 per cent to 11 per cent in the same period.

The businessmen were told that even a slight erosion in the U.S. export market

Sheraton head visits

JEDDAH, Feb. 16 — The President of Sheraton Europe, Africa, Middle East and India, John Kapiocnas, arrived here for a short visit to the country. Sheraton Manages three luxury Hotels in Jeddah, Medina and Al Hada near Taif.



Dr. Solaim A. Solaim

should be of concern to American businessmen. "Your Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that each \$1 billion worth of exports of manufactured goods generate jobs for 30,000 skilled employees in the United States." However, Solaim added that the proportion of Americans employed in Saudi Arabia declined by 30 per cent between 1976 and 1979. "Hence it would seem that technicians from other countries are replacing Americans.

"As businessmen you probably know that

Prepares for Thatcher's visit

Hurd praises Cooperation Council

By Javid Hassan

JEDDAH, Feb. 16 — British Minister of State Douglas Hurd Monday lauded the establishment of the Cooperation Council of the Gulf Arab States.

Hurd made the remarks at a press conference after arrival here to prepare for the forthcoming visit of British Prime Minister Mrs. Margaret Thatcher.

The minister told newsmen that the council would help consolidate relations among the Gulf states in various fields.

Under the agreement reached in Riyadh,

Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates have decided to co-ordinate their activities in economic, financial, educational, cultural and other affairs.

In reply to another question, Hurd said he regarded the security of the Gulf as primarily a concern of the Gulf Council.

The Kingdom, he said, is playing a key role in international affairs. This is evident from the recent Islamic summit at Taif "which was a great success." Saudi Arabia's initiative in

mobilizing support against the continued Soviet presence in Afghanistan is "particularly important," Hurd added.

He was happy to note the successful conclusion of the fifth annual meeting of the Saudi Arabian British Joint Economic Commission, particularly the close working relationship between the British government and the Kingdom.

Referring to the Palestinian issue, he said his government favored a European initiative in the matter. He appreciated the constructive role which Saudi Arabia is playing at the OPEC. "We in the West realize that we have to conserve energy and find alternative sources. We accept that the price of oil will continue to rise but we hope that sudden shocks will be avoided," Hurd remarked.

Hurd left for Riyadh Monday to formulate the agenda for Thatcher's talks. The subjects for the agenda will cover the Middle East, the Afghanistan issue and bilateral relations, especially in the field of trade and commerce.

Though British exports to Saudi Arabia rose by 17 per cent last year, the balance of trade is still in favor of the Kingdom.

IDB head meets Kuwait minister

DUBAI, Feb. 16 (SPA) — Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashed, United Arab Emirates finance and industry minister, discussed Sunday with Dr. Ahmad Muhammad Ali, president of the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank, the items on the draft agenda of the coming session of the bank's board of governors in Khartoum.

Dr. Ali said he briefed the minister on the bank's 200 equity participation projects undertaken since 1976 involving \$1.8 billion.

The IDB's board of governors is made up of the member states' ministers of finance and economy.

Earlier in the day, Dr. Ali was received by Sheikh Hamad bin Muhammad Al-Shareqi, member of the UAE's supreme council and governor of Fujairah. Talks dealt with the construction of a cement project in Fujairah in which the bank participated to the rate of 12 per cent in the equity of the plant's 350 million dinar capital.

Somali freedom fighters seek Kingdom's aid

By Munir Muhammad Ali

JEDDAH, Feb. 16 — Representatives of the Somali Abbo Liberation Front are in the Kingdom to explain their cause after being denied independent observer status at the third Islamic summit last month.

Yusuf Hassan Gababa, S.A.L.F. political and foreign relations office secretary, told Arab News Monday that the problem of the Horn of Africa was "wrapped up in one item of the conference's agenda, and the S.A.L.F.'s initial scheme to take part as an independent observer could not be met.

"The item on the Horn of Africa regarded the issue of one of Muslims oppressed and a refugee problem in Western Somalia (Ogaden) and Eritrea," Gababa said. "The people of the Horn of Africa should be helped, especially the refugees. Aid for refugees is of great help to the liberation movements," he added.

However, some Islamic, Arab and most African countries view the issue as a problem of refugees "without trying to face the reality." Though not sufficient, he said it is a step in the right direction. "The next step will be official recognition of these movements which we are trying to achieve," Gababa added.

The Somali Abbo Liberation front fights against Ethiopia for the freedom of three southern provinces which border Somalia and Kenya. The Sidamo, Bale and Arusi provinces were occupied by Ethiopians under the Emperor Minilik in the late 19th century. British, French and Italian colonial forces had played an effective role with armed assistance to the Abyssinian empire.

The movement which began in 1963 is a "national liberation struggle aiming to restore the right of self-determination of the people of the three provinces," he said. The front is a collusion of numerous nationalities in the three provinces. "Naturally, these nationalities include Somalis who first initiated the armed struggle in 1964, and were joined by the other peoples in the region," Gababa said.

The S.A.L.F. controls more than 85 per cent



TRAINING: S.A.L.F. freedom fighters training in southern Somalia.

of the land, restricting Ethiopian troops to the major towns only. "In 1978, we had liberated most of the major towns which later were re-occupied by Ethiopians after receiving massive Soviet military aid" the S.A.L.F. official added. Their forces are well organized in divisions and brigades and had numbered up to 150,000 fighters in 1977-78 clashes with the Ethiopians, the freedom fighter said.

However, Gababa declined to mention the present figure of S.A.L.F. fighters, but he said that the number has been considerably decreased for lack of regular and sufficient ammunition, medical, financial and food supplies. But they are kept as reserves in a militia.

The front's arms supplies come from "various friendly countries." But about 60 per cent of ammunition and weapons under use are captured from the Ethiopian army. When the Soviets threw their bulk behind Ethiopia and Eastern weapons entered the battle S.A.L.F. fighters had no difficulty in using captured arms because "they matched their own weapons" Gababa said.

The official said that S.A.L.F. like all other freedom movements in the East African country, can not force Ethiopia into accepting their conditions as long as the Soviets support it.

The S.A.L.F. official strongly affirmed the group's independence from other movements in the region. The front has good ties with the Western Somali Liberation Front which fights for the liberation of Ogaden, the Eritrean movements, the Afurs and other freedom movements of the world.

"However, the S.A.L.F. does not recognize the Oromo Liberation Front (also fighting for self determination of some Ethiopian provinces) which has no existence inside the country or never carried its struggle against the oppressors," Gababa asserted.

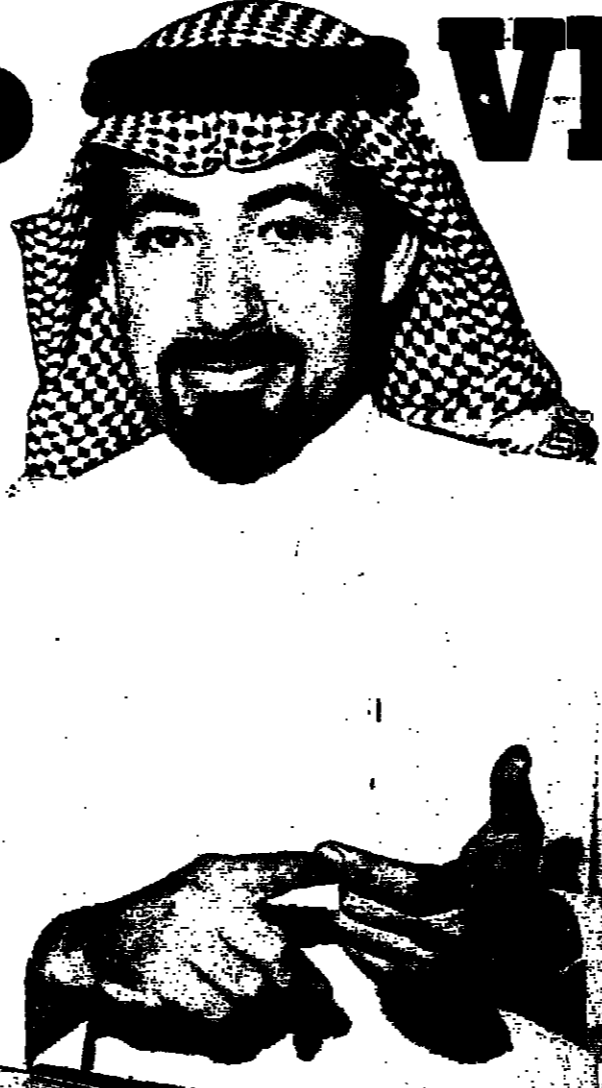
Also the S.A.L.F. does not adhere to any ideology that might divide the region's people. It is neutral and cultivates relations with all, besides the region's people have had deep ties with Somalia and Islamic community and the Arab world, according to Gababa. "We don't intend to fall into the mistakes of the Eritrean Revolution," he added.

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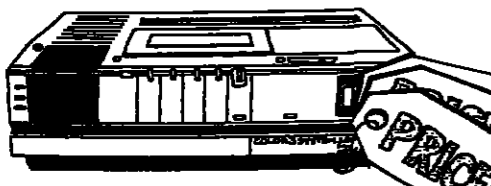
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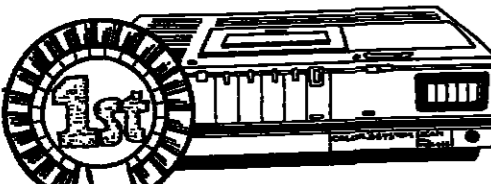
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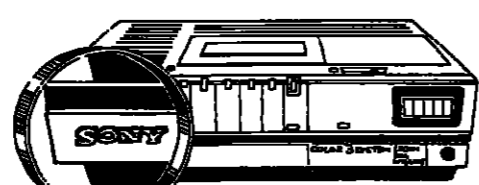
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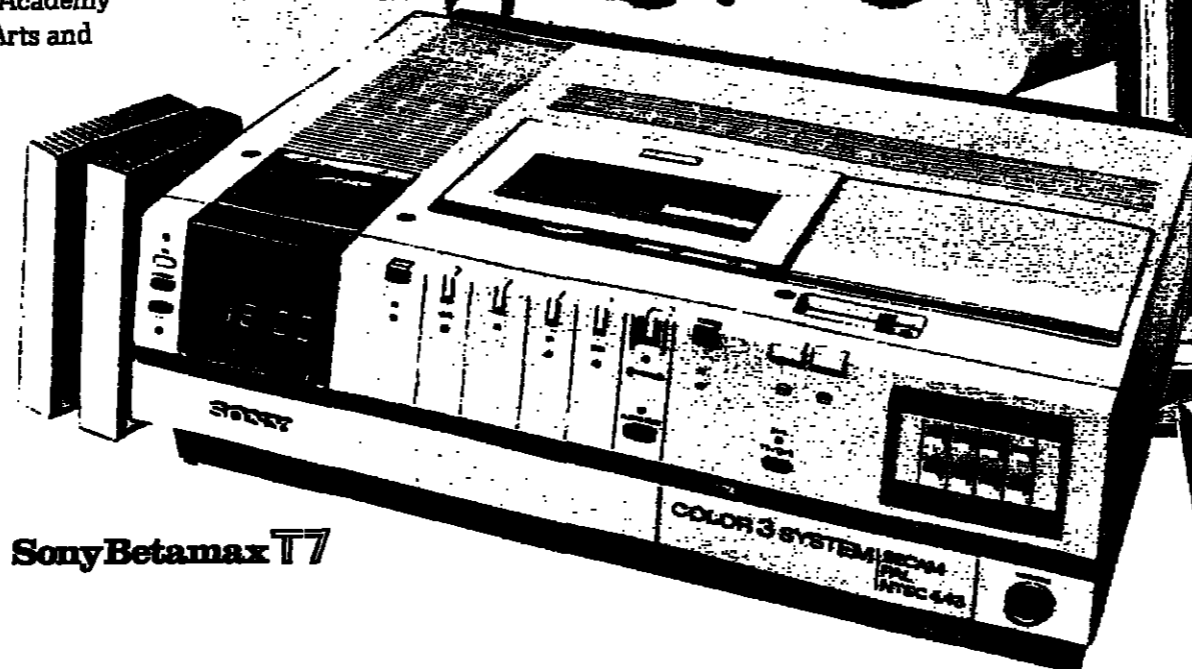


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Sihanouk initiative

Anti-Vietnam front to meet in N. Korea

PEKING, Feb. 16 (AFP) — Talks between former Kampuchean leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk and the Khmer Rouge on forming an anti-Vietnamese front will open in the North Korean capital of Pyongyang at the end of the month. In a telephone call to the Agence France-Presse Bureau here from Pyongyang, where he resides, the prince said Sunday he will be meeting with Khieu Samphan, prime minister of the Democratic Kampuchea regime ousted by Vietnamese forces in January 1979.

The prince said he did not expect the talks to be successful at the start because of his numerous disagreements with the Khmer Rouge during the period they held him in Phnom Penh from 1975 to 1979. He would then propose that the talks resume in November he said, adding "I'm not in any hurry."

The prince has just accepted the idea of leading a coalition of all Kampuchean resistance groups fighting the Vietnamese forces. He has proposed Khieu Samphan as prime minister, and last Wednesday, the Khmer Rouge leader said he was ready to have talks with the prince.

The opening of the negotiations between Prince Sihanouk and his old enemies comes as a diplomatic success for China which had for months been calling for the formation of such a front under the patronage of the prince. In his telegram to AFP, the prince said disagreement with the Khmer Rouge was especially serious on the subject of total

Woman bandit leader kills 22 in N. India

NEW DELHI, Feb. 16 (AP) — A woman bandit leader led her gang into a northern Indian village and slew some 22 persons for allegedly sheltering a rival gang leader who had killed her lover, the United News of India reported.

UNI said that the woman, Phoolan Devi, 25, and her 24-member gang attacked Behmai village, about 450 kms southeast of here, Saturday. Police reinforcements were rushed to the area. The report said that the bandits, all of whom wore police uniforms, ordered the male villagers to assemble at one house. They then asked the natives for information about Devi's enemy, Siram Singh, who had gunned down her lover, Vikram Mallah, last year.

When the terrified villagers insisted that they had no information about Singh, Devi ordered her men to first beat them with clubs and then open fire. The bandits also plundered the village before departing, UNI said, quoting several wounded villagers.

disarmament of all groups in Kampuchea following an eventual withdrawal of Vietnamese troops and the setting up of United Nations-guaranteed international supervision of the country "for several years."

He declared that as prime minister, Khieu Samphan would be in charge of diplomatic, political and military matters in a coalition which the prince would head but without having direct responsibility. In exchange for his agreement to head the front, Sihanouk asked China to supply military aid to all the armed anti-Vietnamese groups in Kampuchea, notably his own supporters, and not just the Khmer Rouge.

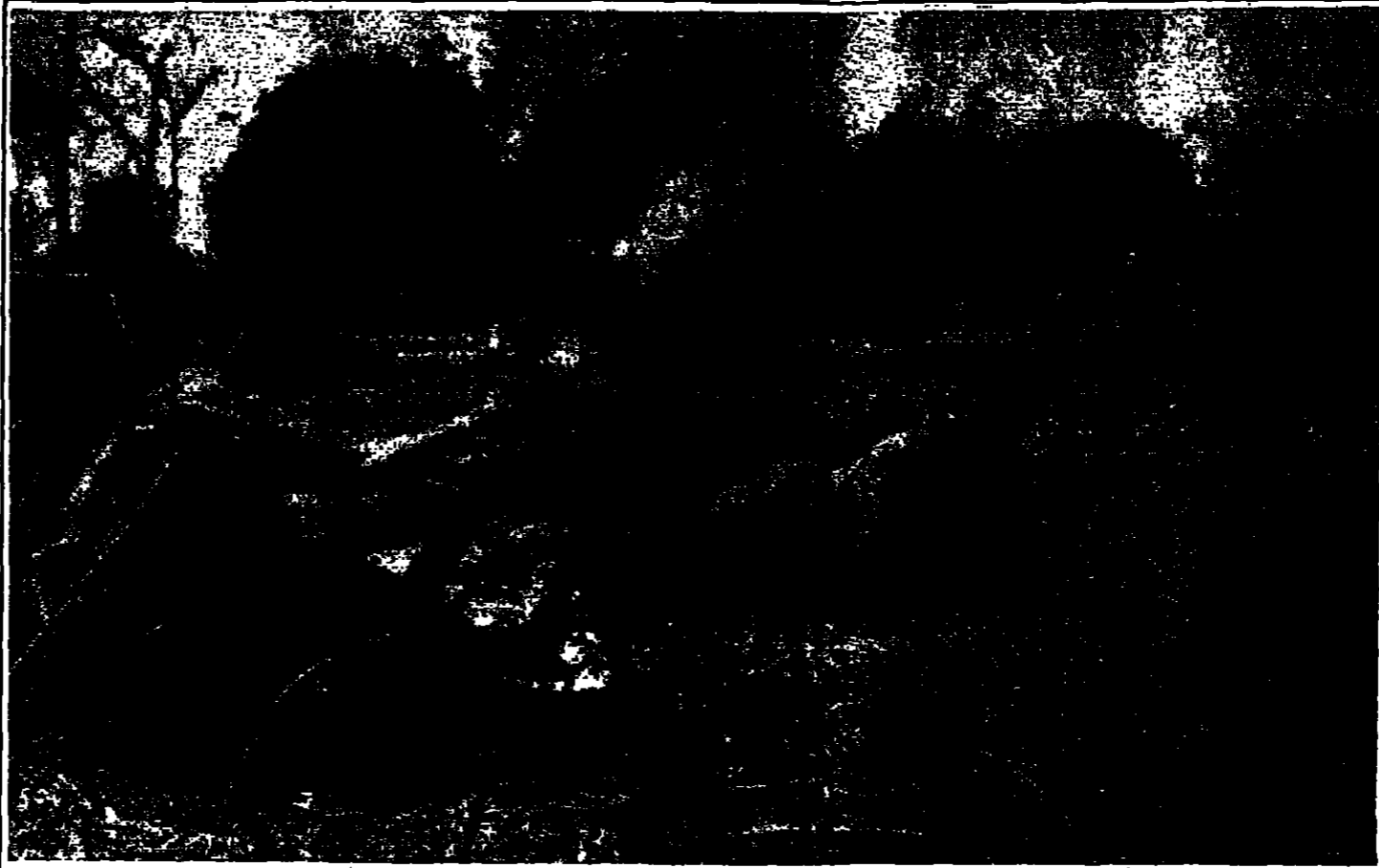
China was anxious for the former leader to make up with the Khmer Rouge especially because Peking could see the writing on the wall for them on the international diplomatic scene. Britain broke off relations with Khmer Rouge regime of Kampuchea a year ago, and the latest country to make such a move was Australia last week. The Khmer Rouge are generally held responsible for the deaths of thousands of people in Kampuchea while in power.

Peking believes the "Sihanouk solution" will avoid the de facto international recognition of the pro-Vietnam Heng Samrin regime that would occur if it raised Kampuchea in the United Nations. Diplomats see the Khmer Rouge as losing the seat in the coming autumn.

The Vietnamese-backed government in Phnom Penh said Sunday Sihanouk's announcement that he was prepared to head an anti-Hanoi front in Kampuchea was a sign of China's helplessness. The Vietnam News Agency, monitored here, quoted the Kampuchean news Agency SPK as saying that China's attempt to form a front of "Kampuchean traitors" was an admission of its helplessness at developments in the country.

"In spite of feverish efforts by Peking, Washington and other circles, it can right now be affirmed that this mixture of heterogeneous elements can do nothing against the Kampuchean people whose vitality is growing daily," the agency said.

Meanwhile, foreign minister of the five-member non-Communist Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) will discuss Kampuchea in Manila at a conference between June 17 and 20, with the aim of backing Kampuchean opposition groups, it was announced Sunday. Philippine Foreign Minister Carlos Romulo said that foreign ministers of the United States, Japan, Australia, New Zealand and other concerned countries would also be invited to a meeting after the conference, to exchange views.



BORDER SKIRMISH: Thai border patrol troops fire a mortar shell across the Mekong river into Laos.

Laotian rally protests Thai border intrusion

BANGKOK, Feb. 16 (AFP) — About 10,000 people rallied in the Laotian capital, Vientiane, recently in protest against an alleged intrusion by Thailand during a border skirmish earlier this month, Laotian Radio reported Monday. The radio monitored here, said demonstrators from all walks of life con-

demned what it called the violation of Don Sangkhi, a disputed islet in their Mekong river frontier.

Both Thailand and Laos have formally protested to each other over the fighting, which Thailand said wounded nine Thais on Feb. 8, at the height of the exchange of automatic,

artillery and mortar fire. Thailand closed the border after the incident, imposing what amounts to an economic blockade of landlocked Laos, a staunch ally of Vietnam. Laos blames the tension on China. Thailand has also referred to as "third hand," but it means Vietnam.

Communists campaign against immigrants in France

PARIS, Feb. 16 (AFP) — They number nearly four million, they come mainly from North Africa or Mediterranean Europe, they cannot vote — and now they have been thrown despite themselves into the fray of a campaign struggle leading up to the French spring presidential elections. Who are they? The immigrant labor force in France.

The trouble started late last year when the French Communist Party decided to launch a war on what it labeled immigrant "ghettos" in working-class suburbs of Paris and called for outbursts in the foreign work force. The party has provoked a vast national uproar through escalating actions including the partial destruction of a hostel for workers from Mali, setting immigrant bans in moderate rent housing, schools and vacation centers, and a demonstration outside the home of a Moroccan family that the party charged had been involved in drug dealing. Police could not substantiate this charge.

A wide range of French political groups, including both the majority parties on the right and segments of the Socialist and other parties on the left, have sharply condemned the Communists' actions as "racist." One member of the Socialist Party, the ex-partner of the Communist in a French left union, said the party had become like "an extreme rightwing group."

The Communist have vigorously contested these charges, party leaders, who have protested for the past few years over the concentration of immigrant workers in Communist-led municipalities, maintain that their sole concern is to block government policies tending to direct immigrants to leftist communities. Statistics plead in favor of the Communists' argument. Despite accords concluded in the 1970's for a balanced distribution of the foreign population throughout the Paris metropolitan area, the great majority of immigrants have been housed in

leftist municipalities.

Communist Party leader Georges Marchais said last week his call for a halt to immigration was aimed at preventing an increase in the number of unemployed, "be they French or immigrants." There are currently 1,700,000 unemployed people in France, and this level has been on the rise, sparking debate on the issue of immigrants in the labor market. The country has a total population of some 53 million.

But despite the timeliness of the issue, the major parties and the national press have charged that the Communists' motives are strictly electoral.

Critiques of the recent actions have stressed that immigrants do not have the right to vote, while French workers — concerned over the future of their jobs and traditionally a xenophobic lot — look favorably on the party's call to "end the invasion of immigrants."

Devlin vows to enter political fray

DUBLIN, Feb. 16 (AP) — Northern Ireland Roman Catholic activist Bernadette Devlin McAliskey, wounded in an assassination attempt last month, pledged Sunday to return to the political fray as soon as she is released from the hospital.

"I am too stubborn to be terrified," Mrs. McAliskey, 33, was quoted as saying in an interview with a Dublin newspaper, the *Sunday World*. "But I know I am very, very lucky to be alive."

Mrs. McAliskey was interviewed in Belfast's Royal Victoria Hospital where she is recovering after being shot seven times by gunmen who burst into her home Jan. 16. Her husband, Michael, was also wounded in the attack, but their three children were unharmed.

Mrs. McAliskey, who expected to be released in about two weeks, said she would immediately return to the campaign to get political prisoner status for convicted Irish Republican Army guerrillas in Belfast's Maze prison. Leaders of the guerrillas from the outlawed, mainly Catholic movement have announced they plan a new hunger strike March 1, the second in five months. The IRA is fighting to reunite this Protestant-dominated British province with the Catholic republic of Ireland.

"I will be as active as ever," said Mrs. McAliskey, who is likely to be on crutches for at least another month. "We just have to go on, particularly if another hungerstrike does start." Meanwhile, in Glasgow, Scotland, where 152 people were arrested in a clash between IRA supporters and Protestants Saturday, a Protestant leader demanded a ban on IRA marches.

"If something is not done to stop the supporters of the IRA marching through the streets of Glasgow, this city will be like Belfast in five years' time," said the Rev. David Castles.

Ito denies U.S. arms

TOKYO, Feb. 16 (AP) — Japanese Foreign Minister Masuyoshi Ito denied Monday a Communist legislator's charges that the U.S. marine corps has introduced nuclear weapons at its Iwakuni base in western Japan. Japan Communist Party legislator Mitsuo Higashimaka claimed at a Diet (parliament) session that a document had been found on the base which explained safety control procedures and the operation of nuclear arms.

The foreign minister said he would bring the matter to the attention of U.S. military authorities, but reiterated that the United States has not brought weapons into Japan under the provisions of the U.S.-Japan security treaty and Japan's anti-nuclear policies.

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Ottawa bid evokes controversy

Constitution debate begins today



Canadian Premier Pierre Trudeau

OTTAWA, Feb. 16 (AP) — Canada's effort to break an archaic colonial link with London is setting off fireworks — with leaks of secret cables, hints of trans-Atlantic wiretapping, and charges that diplomats are working as "agents provocateurs."

The entire episode has become a field day for constitutional lawyers and a nightmare for the diplomatic corps. It was supposed to have been an amicable constitutional change, but instead it has proved embarrassing and troubling for two prime ministers, Canada's Pierre Elliott Trudeau and Britain's Margaret Thatcher.

The final phase of the Canadian parliament's debate on the issue begins Tuesday. What Trudeau wants to do bring home the Canadian constitution, a document that now sits in a vault in London. It is officially named the British North America Act of 1867, which established the Canadian confederation. As an act of her Majesty's parliament, it remains under British control, and every time Canada needed an amendment British lawmakers had to adopt it.

Trudeau wants the Canadian parliament to end this humiliating anachronism by petitioning London to surrender control. But first

the British will be asked to add a few final amendments, including a bill of rights and provisions for making future amendments in Canada.

The Canadian leader wants the British to do this because he and the governments of Canada's provinces cannot agree on taking these steps themselves once the constitution is back in Canada. Most of the 10 provinces object to the bill of rights and amending formula, arguing they diminish provincial powers.

Six provincial governments, outraged that Trudeau sidestepped them and went straight to London, appealed to Canadian judges, and buttonholed British lawmakers to plead their

case. Other "special interests," from Canadian Indians to women's groups, also jumped into the constitutional fray, seeking new protection in the revised document.

The Thatcher government, grappling with a stubborn recession and other problems, of its own, suddenly was in the middle of a Canadian tug-of-war. Ever since meeting with Mrs. Thatcher last June, Trudeau has insisted she is prepared to push his constitutional package through the British parliament. But on Feb. 4, it was disclosed that a top Thatcher lieutenant, Sir Francis Pym, told Canadian officials at an Ottawa meeting late last year that the package faced "appalling difficulties" in the British parliament.

The British, it developed, were balking because of the increasingly vocal Canadian opposition to the constitutional proposals. Pym complained that it was only in October, four months after Trudeau's initial approach, that Thatcher learned of the bill of rights proposals and other complications.

Then the next bombshell burst. Two members of the Canadian parliament alleged that at a social gathering the British Ambassador in Ottawa, Sir Rohn Ford, tried to influence their votes on the constitutional issue.

Four days later, on Feb. 9, the spotlight shifted to the Canadian Ambassador to London, Jean Wadds. The Canadian Broadcasting Corp. reported it had obtained secret diplomatic cables in which Mrs. Wadds expressed the fear that Canadian telephone conversations on the constitutions were being tapped.

The British described as "nonsense" the suggestion they were tapping Canadian constitutional conversations, and Trudeau said he knew of no wiretaps. But the incident further heightened trans-Atlantic tensions in what was supposed to have been a dull and inoffensive parliamentary sideshow.

The Canadian prime minister said two weeks ago it would be wrong for Britain to "refuse to give complete and final independence to one of its former colonies" and he suggested the Canadian people would react strongly. One curious fact: even if the constitution is "sent home," Canada will continue to pledge allegiance to the Queen as head of state. The "revolution" in Canada, oldest of England's new world possessions, has not gone that far.

Shooting leaves one dead, 3 hurt in Guatemala

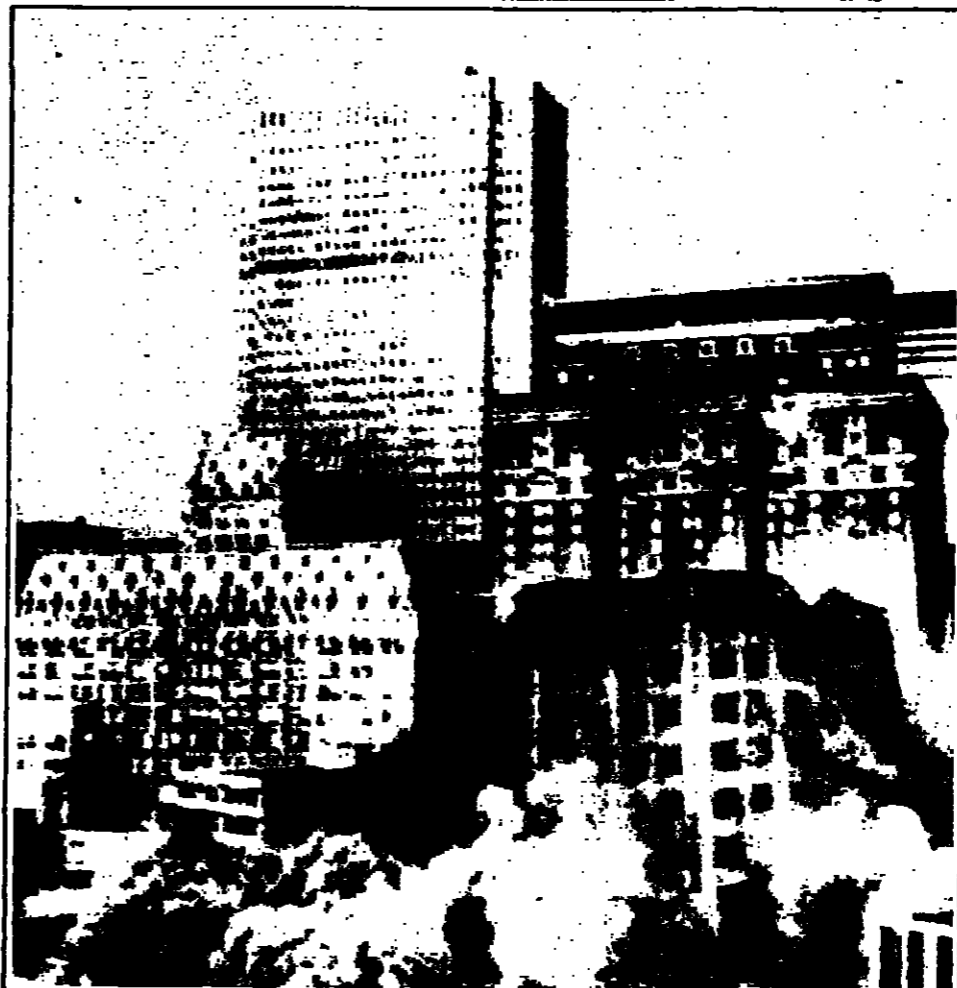
GUATEMALA CITY, Feb. 16 (AP) — An outbreak of shooting in the downtown area of the capital involving police and members of the Christian Democratic Party left at least one person dead and three wounded, police officials have said.

Police and spokesman for the Christian Democratic Party offered conflicting versions of the incident Saturday in which a hand-grenade explosion and heavy gunfire erupted in front of the party's headquarters here. Police claimed members of the party opened fire on a security forces vehicle as it passed along the street near the Christian Democratic headquarters here.

But Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo, secretary general of the party, told reporters the attack was directed against him personally, adding that he refuses to leave the country. He said his automobile was hit by at least 40 bullets during the shooting.

The Christian Democrats recently reopened their offices here after having suspended all political activity last year because of political violence that they said was affecting party members throughout the country. Two unidentified party members were arrested after the shooting, police said. They did not say what type of weapons, if any, the Christian Democrats might have used to attack the security forces. Police said the dead man, and the three wounded in the incident, were all passers-by who got caught in the sudden burst of gunfire.

The Christian Democrats are tentatively scheduled to participate in Guatemala's presidential elections next March.



DEMOLITION: The nine-story Hertz parking garage crumbles in a cloud of dust Sunday as the building located in downtown Pittsburgh was demolished to make way for a new subway system to be constructed by the Fort authority of Allegheny county.

1m farmers attend Delhi rally

NEW DELHI, Feb. 16 (Agencies) — India's ruling Congress (I) Party Monday hit back at opposition-backed agitation among farmers with a rally here, said to be the biggest ever held since the country became independent. More than a million farmers from all over the country heard Prime Minister Indira Gandhi urge them not to join in the agitation and promise them help in an apparent response to their demands for better food prices.

In a 40-minute speech, Mrs. Gandhi, who was introduced as "the mother" by one of her party members, said the gathering was "a national rally and not a rally of my party," adding "we are here to show the world we are united."

Her audience was brought to New Delhi in 130 special trains, state-owned buses, private trucks and even tractors. Some buses were so overcrowded that one crashed, killing at least five farmers and seriously injuring others, reports said. The farmers started arriving Sunday and were lodged in 27 encampments around the city.

Organizers said that at least three million farmers were at the rally, but police put the figure at 1.5 million. Indian farmers or people in agriculture-related jobs, who constitute 80 per cent of the 650 million population, started their agitation in western Maharashtra state demanding better prices for their produce.

The movement soon spread to other states and the government offered incentives and increased the base price of several products. However, farmers' leaders have threatened to repeat their actions and observers here saw Monday's rally as an effort by Mrs. Gandhi to show her strength and frustrate efforts to renew the agitation.

Some opposition members of parliament boycotted a speech to both houses by President Sanjiva Reddy, claiming that government services had been used to bring the farmers to New Delhi.

U.S. agency recommends new mobile missile system

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (Agencies) — The United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency has come out in favor of new nuclear weapons in spite of an admission that they could accelerate the arms race. In its latest report to Congress the agency said the introduction of mobile MX and submarine-launched Trident II missiles by the United States could increase Soviet fears of American nuclear attack, leading to the development of new weapons by Moscow, upsetting the strategic balance and an arms limitation agreement.

However the "national political and military risks involved in not deploying the MX are even greater," the agency said. It suggested that a limited quantity of the missiles would not jeopardize arms control.

The United States has not made a decision on whether to deploy both the Trident II and MX missile. Meanwhile, the second-ranking official at the Soviet embassy in Washington, Minister-Counsellor Vladilen M. Vasev, said Saturday the SALT II treaty is "not in force" because the United States has not ratified it.

Asked about the fate of the strategic arms limitation agreement, Vasev told the cable news network: "I would say the ball is in the court of the (Ronald Reagan) administration ... We are in the process of waiting for the United States to do its side of the agreement."

The U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency reviewed more than 90 U.S. weapons systems and concluded that all were in accord with present arms control agreements. The report was sent to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee.

The statements say both the land-fired MX missiles and Trident II missiles would overcome increasing U.S. vulnerability to a Soviet first nuclear strike. Arms control could be threatened, the statements say, if the Soviets developed a new weapons system to counter the increased capabilities the United States might gain from deployment of the Trident and MX missiles.

However, either the MX mobile missile system or the Trident II missiles could enhance arms control if the Soviets responded by building a controllable new mobile missile system of their own, the statements say.

"A situation in which both sides had deployed mobile intercontinental ballistic

missiles could be more stable than one in which one side's ICBMs were mobile (or otherwise survivable) and the other's were potentially vulnerable," one statement says. Mobile systems move nuclear missiles often so that the other side cannot locate them and destroy them in a first nuclear strike.

German reunification

Honecker sees possibility

BERLIN, Feb. 16 (Agencies) — East German head of state Erich Honecker has predicted the possibility of a reunited Germany. At a meeting in East Berlin with party local delegates, Honecker issued a warning to those in West Germany who, he said, "pretend to consider the reunification of the two German states as an affair of the heart."

He said Sunday these people should beware, because one day socialism would "come knocking on their door" and the workers of West Germany would begin a socialist reorganization of the country. "The

U.S. allies meet in Bonn

BONN, Feb. 16 (AP) — Foreign ministers of three major U.S. allies met secretly in the West German capital last week to discuss implications for Europe of the new Ronald Reagan administration's European policy, sources said Monday.

Bonn government sources, who asked not to be identified, declined to reveal details of the talks last Thursday between West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Foreign Minister Jean Francois Poncet of France and Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington of Great Britain. But the sources said the discussion centered on U.S. foreign policy developments and events in Poland, where labor unrest has prompted fears in the West of Soviet military intervention.

question of unification of the two German states will stand in a new light. There can be no doubt what our decision will be in that situation," he added.

It was the first time the Communist Party chief had ever spelt out the possibility of reuniting the two German states. After he took power 10 years ago, East Berlin dropped its previous commitment to unite Germany into a Communist system and insisted there were now two irrevocably separated German nations.

In the following years, the East German authorities virtually eliminated the word Germany from the national vocabulary, dropping it from the titles of businesses and organizations. It was replaced with the initials D.D.R., the German abbreviation for the (East) German Democratic Republic, and even the East Germans themselves are now officially referred to as "D.D.R., citizens," never as Germans.

Only once before has Honecker shown any flexibility on the question of reunification. In a newspaper interview in 1978 he said it would be "possible to talk about it" if West Germany went Communist. His much more forthright remarks Sunday confirmed signs of a gradual move away from the insistence that there were no common links between East and West Germany.

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Is Walesa being torn in two?

By Mark Frankland

LONDON —

Partial agreement between the government and Solidarity on Saturday working and access to the media has momentarily eased Poland's crisis but left worrying problems untouched. The leaders of both sides remain divided among themselves and unable to control their followers. The danger, therefore, is not of two disciplined armies marching relentlessly toward each other, but of a riot of local conflicts which, if they continue to spread, may eventually bring the two leaders face-to-face whether they want it or not.

This explains the appeal by Lech Walesa, Solidarity's leader, for an end to all unofficial strikes. Instead, he has tried to concentrate his members' enthusiasm and emotion on the prospect, which he himself must surely hope will not materialize, of a general strike. Solidarity, his appeal recently went, has to show that it "has the situation under control. There is fire in the country".

There are powerful reasons why Solidarity is finding it hard to keep its troops in line. It is organized on a regional basis (partly the government's fault because it insisted last summer on negotiating with the strikers region-by-region in the hope of weakening them). This means that Walesa can often exercise control only by being on the spot, as he was last month in Rzeszow, where farmers demanding their own union have staged a sit-in.

Solidarity is also paying the price for having become the lone white knight in the new people's Poland. It is being dragged into a lot of battles that have nothing to do with union rights. The peasants' struggle is one. A growing students' protest, centered on the University of Lodz and in which disgust with political indoctrination courses play a big part, is another. The cause of political prisoners is a third, and the list goes on.

Solidarity's ability to cope with these growing strains is lessened by a probably inevitable divergence of approach among its leaders. Almost from the very first day of the strike in Gdansk last August much has depended on Walesa's ability to maneuver around powerful emotions and impractical demands. The government has been playing heavily on this in the last month, distinguishing between the so-called sensible men in Solidarity and those who it alleges are on "the Right" and "anti-socialist".

Thus a recent Polish radio broadcast asked the question "Is Walesa being torn in two?" Gen. Moczar, the ex-security services chief, has attacked the "enemies of socialism" who were going "straight for the throat" and praised "all aware and honest members and organizers of Solidarity".

The government is presumably pleased by the resignation of the leader of Solidarity's Jastrzebie branch, who said recently that the union "has ceased to be the workers' honest representative body." Jastrzebie, in the mining area of Silesia, was with Gdansk and Szczecin at the forefront of the movement that created Solidarity.

The government appears to feel that it has identified an exploitable deposit of popular exasperation with the continuing uncertainty. It may calculate that its threat recently to take measures to secure "the normal functioning of enterprises", presumably by some sort of martial law, may find supporters.

But how united and in control are Poland's leaders? Stanislaw Kania, the party first secretary, has not yet put his imprimatur on the leadership in the way that Gierek (then a popular man) did when he took over in somewhat similar circumstances in 1970. Kania has no taste for public gestures and, however, skillful his backstage maneuvering (he is reputed to be a cunning politician), he gives the impression of being caught between the Russians and Polish realities.

It is widely believed in Warsaw that his fellow Politburo member Stefan Olszowski, kicked out by Gierek and then reinstated in triumph last autumn, is pushing a hard line. Meanwhile, Gen. Moczar, with more demagogic skills than either, seems to be jumping onto every helpful horse. In sum, hopes that a coherent government and a decently organized union might strike a series of bargains to get the country out of its difficulties have so far been disappointed.

Letters to the editor

Mr. Fernando Lalanza,
 P.O. Box 405,
 Tabuk,
 Saudi Arabia.
 Editor's Note: Thank you for your interest. Arab News has taken your opinion into consideration.

Mr. Ehsanul Haque Chaudhry,
 P.O. Box 2925,
 Riyadh.
 Editor's Note: Your proposal has been submitted to the concerned department.



Portents from Poland's past

By William Gattmann

LONDON —

A century-and-a-half ago, on Feb. 6, 1831, a Russian army marched into Poland to quell an uprising against the Russian overlords. It was a landmark in the long calvary of suffering and humiliation of once proud and mighty Poland which had the misfortune of having powerful, jealous and ambitious countries as its neighbors.

At one time or another Austria of the Habsburgs, Russia both Tsarist and Communist and Prussia-Germany under the Hohenzollerns and Hitler played fateful roles in the unending Polish tragedy, securing territorial aggrandizement at Polish expense. In the first partition of 1772, the whole trio participated, large stretches of land were taken, but Poland was left as a viable state.

In 1791 Poland adopted a written constitution. By the standards of the age it was notably progressive. Russia's Empress Catherine the Great, fearful that the spirit of progress might prove infectious, decided that it was intolerable. In 1792, the Russians stimulated internal unrest in Poland, invaded the country and, in the second partition of 1793 with Prussian approval, proceeded to annex more of it. An armed rebellion, led by Tadeusz Kosciuszko, ended in disaster. In the third partition of

1795, Poland was completely dismembered to the advantage of Austria, Prussia and Russia.

Prussia obtained a large chunk of purely Polish territory, including the capital, Warsaw. It is a minor, though intriguing reflection on those bizarre and bewildering times, that the real E.T.A. Hoffmann, spent several years representing the King of Prussia in Warsaw as a government councillor.

The Napoleonic wars, in which Polish legionaries sided with the French to promote their national cause, and the Congress of Vienna in 1815, changed the map of Poland again. A kingdom of Poland was carved out of Poland and given to the Russians. Tsar Alexander I became king of Poland and, under a new constitution, gave the Poles a fair degree of autonomy. Although Alexander appeared genuinely interested in gaining the loyalty of the satellite country, he grew increasingly reactionary in the years preceding his death in 1825. His behavior provoked Polish antagonism and unrest.

Alexander's successor, Nicholas I, hated and feared revolution and radicalism. Like Catherine before him — and the Soviet rulers later — he was determined to safeguard Russian autocracy. The moment for showing his determination came in 1830 in the wake of the French July revolution and the Belgian uprising against the House of Orange.

Nicholas I planned to send an army, including Polish troops, against the Belgians. The Tsar's plan incensed the Polish soldiers who rose in revolt. Their spearhead was the Warsaw Infantry School where a conspiratorial group of officers and cadets had been set up two years earlier. The rebels struck on Nov. 29 (the 150th anniversary was marked last year by the Polish People's Army). On Jan. 25, 1831, the Polish Diet formally dethroned the Tsar as king of Poland and abolished the Romanov Dynasty. Open war was now inevitable, and with the move of Russian troops into Poland on Feb. 6, a long and bloody struggle ensued which ended with the total defeat of the Poles. Their remnants surrendered to the Prussians, and many Poles sought exile in the West.

Polish longing for freedom and independence was systematically suppressed by Prussian-Germany and Russia. The end of World War I saw a resurrection of Poland, only to be undone once more in 1939 by a fifth partition, the Hitler-Stalin Pact.

The present-day Poland that emerged after World War II is again menaced by its mighty and autocratic neighbor, the Soviet Union, which, like the Tsar's tyranny, fears that the wind of change blowing from Poland might prove an ill wind for the Soviet satellite states.

COOPERATION COUNCIL

The Cooperation Council of the six Gulf Arab states bears an undramatic name, but is certainly one of far reaching importance for the region and one of the major historical events in the Arab world this century. The event takes Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, the UAE, Qatar and Bahrain a long step forward toward their cherished goal of integration in a practical, deliberate manner.

Fortunately, there has been little or no rhetoric shrouding the announcement, but a statement of fact and the mechanics of implementation couched in terms of good practical sense. Although the officials did not speak of unity as such, because the term can be misleading, the plan and the intention are to coordinate internal policies and services. The Gulf states' foreign policies already are identical. Their economies resemble each other, with heavy dependence on crude oil production and sales.

The council is expected to accelerate as well as streamline economic integration to avoid duplication of projects.

Perhaps the most significant factor in the council concept and secretariat plan is to bring these states together in a way that has not been possible before anywhere in the Arab world. This makes the achievement unique and will devolve on the leaders of the six states to make it the success it deserves.

Unlike previous abortive attempts in other parts of the Arab world, this time the cooperation council possesses most of the ingredients of realization on the count of the homogeneity, including religion, economy, political systems, language, traditions and ethnicity. They are in a much better position than Western Europe and far better than India, which has several religions and hundreds of linguistic, racial and ethnic groups.

Apart from the obvious economic and social advantages arising from such integration, the council has served notice — politely but firmly — that the political and strategic interests of the region are the responsibility of the states directly concerned, not those of the superpowers vying for influence and power. And this should help the superpowers and others to understand the desire of the states to keep their region as much a zone of peace and stability as possible, for the good and welfare of the area in particular and the world as a whole. Already the six states produce most of the oil the world consumes and sell it at a reasonable price in the interest of mankind. Any other source of such a vital and depletable resource possibly would have squeezed the consumers dry to get the maximum benefit for its riches.

Crown Prince Fahd already has said that the council is not aimed against anybody. The corollary is that it is good news for all concerned.

Saudi Arabian Press Review

In a lead story, *Al Bilad* said Monday, that Crown Prince Fahd's statement on the Gulf Cooperation Council has reaffirmed the concept of coherence among the Arab states of the Gulf. *Al Jazirah* led with a statement by Petroleum Governor Dr. Abdul Hadi Taher on the opening of the East-West crude oil pipeline within the next six months. *Al Nadwa* carried as its lead story Iraq's reported threat to occupy other Iranian towns, while *Okaz* led with King Hussein's reaffirmation that Jordan would not participate in negotiations to decide the future of the Palestinian people.

Al Jazirah frontpaged a statement by Minister of Information Dr. Muhammad Abdo Yamani, in which he urged the major powers to refrain from interfering in the affairs of the Gulf. Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri's reiteration that Prince Fahd's call for the holy war (Jihad) provides the starting point for the realization of the aspirations of Muslims was played as a page one story in *Al Bilad*.

Newspaper editorials commented on the Gulf Cooperation Council and welcomed Prince Fahd's statement that the council would consolidate unity among the Arab states of the Gulf. *Al Medina* said in an editorial that reaction to the creation of the council is a clear manifestation of brotherly sentiments and a common desire for cooperation. The paper added that the council symbolizes the wishes of the six Arab states of the Gulf to realize coordination and coherence among themselves. It endorsed the crown prince's reaffirmation that the council would consolidate the existing unity among the Gulf states, and

urged them to stand firm against the major powers so they are unable to harm the interests of the Gulf states.

Al Jazirah described the Gulf Cooperation Council as an "honest translation" of the wishes of the leaders of the region. This council represents all the hopes and aspirations of the Arab peoples of the Gulf who have remained close to each other while deriving their inspiration from a common faith and history, it said. The paper expressed the confidence that with all the economic, political, diplomatic and military force at their command, the Arab states of the Gulf can quickly become the third power in the world, and can play a pivotal role in defending the rights of peoples of the world. It urged every individual of the region to remain alert at all times and to do everything possible to foster mutual cooperation.

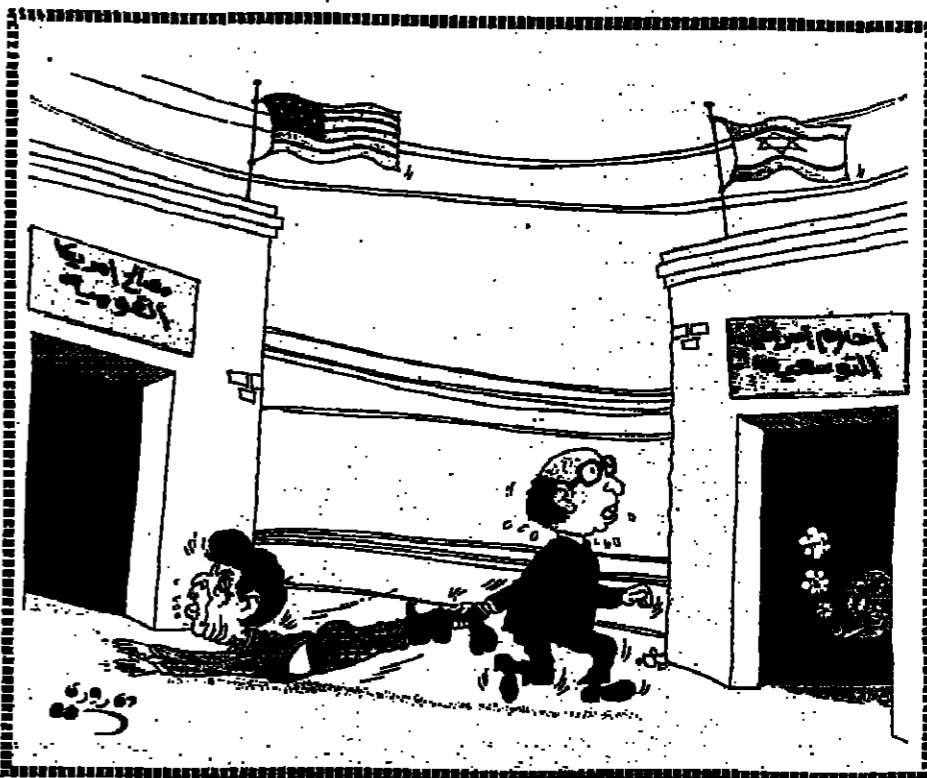
Dealing with the same subject, *Al Riyadh* said the council is an indispensable step toward the realization of the hopes and aspirations of the peoples of the region. It also endorsed the crown prince's views on the council and said it would foster existing unity among the Arab states of the Gulf. The crown prince's reaffirmation on the subject reflects the firm stance of the government and people of Saudi Arabia on all the crucial issues of the Arabs, mainly the issue of Palestine, the paper added.

Okaz noted in an editorial that, when the Arab states of the Gulf announced their plan for cooperation, they kept in view their future in which they would have to work for the development of the region and for the realization of the peoples' aspirations

for peace and stability. It described the council as an "initiative" worthy of every concern and a step on the road to integration.

Al Bilad also dwelled on the same subject, saying the council is an advanced step taken amid challenges, to work for the welfare and prosperity of the peoples of the region with the framework of the Arab League charter. The establishment of the Gulf Cooperation Council has, in fact, crystallized the idea of a practical step to realize Arab aspirations and to confront challenges of hostile forces with a comprehensive spirit of solidarity and a deep sense of the significant role the region is called upon to play for the achievement of its desired objectives, the paper said. It also referred to the crown prince's statement on the council and reaffirmed that the Gulf states have taken a big step forward to serve the people and to protect the region from foreign interventions in their internal affairs.

Al Yam observed that Prince Fahd's statement on the council has amply explained the aims and objectives of the Gulf Cooperation Council. It also endorsed the crown prince's view that the council would not represent any alliance or bloc, but would only reflect a kind of integration among the Arab states of the region. The council's main concern would be to realize coordination among the six states in all fields, it said, and added that the council would strive to expand the horizons of cooperation and solidarity in the larger interests of the region and its peoples. The region has consistently worked for the welfare and stability of the world and would never be directed against anyone, the paper said.



Torn between America's national interests and the expansionist dreams of Israel. Al Medina

Nicaragua slips on a revolutionary banana peel

By Ward Sinclair

WASHINGTON (WP) — As though reeling from the pages of a comic novel, comes a true-life story, not even halfway humorous, about the big banana split.

It involves the largest banana importer in the United States and the Revolutionary Sandinista Government of Nicaragua, spurred by a lot of heated words that cloud their real need for one another. It only lasted a few weeks, but it neatly sums up much of what you need to know about modern U.S. relations with the small nations of Latin America.

Back in mid-December, Nicaragua decreed that it was going to take over production and marketing of its bananas — one of its important sources of foreign exchange — as a means of improving the lot of some 5,000 low-paid, poorly housed banana workers.

A week later, the U.S.-based Standard Fruit & Steamship Co., the largest buyer of the Nicaraguan fruit, said, in effect, "Okay, keep your bananas. We will no longer carry them to American breakfast tables."

Standard Fruit kept its word. And for the next three weeks, its banana ships stayed from Nicaraguan ports. Vile deed, responded Nicaragua's interior undersecretary, Luis Carrion Cruz. "Even if we have to eat every last banana, we are not going to allow these imperialists to humiliate the revolution," he said.

As the rate Standard Fruit buys bananas from Nicaragua, that would be a lot of homemade pies, fritters, cakes, puree and nut bread. Standard Fruit buys about 24 million worth of the fruit annually, about a third of the amount it places in Western U.S. markets.

Now, in other times, if a small banana-producing republic in Latin America has offended a big-time U.S. fruit company, there would have been hell to pay.

For example, one of Standard Fruit's rivals, the United Fruit Co., caused a furor in the mid-1950s when it helped the CIA overthrow a leftist government in Guatemala. United executives used to boast of their influence over other banana-republic governments, as well.

But those were other times. It is no longer business as usual in those countries, and even in decidedly revolutionary Nicaragua, which is desperate for operating capital, Standard Fruit is needed as much as it needs the bananas.

So when Standard Fruit diverted its banana fleet, the Sandinistas were stunned. They sensed an American corporate political gambit aimed at embarrassing their revolution. They promptly wrote to then-Secretary of State Edmund S. Muskie, proclaiming their desire to continue business with Standard Fruit.

And then they appealed to Standard Fruit's parent firm, the Honolulu-based Castle & Cooke Inc., a multinational agribusiness outfit, for talks at the "highest levels."

The talks ended in San Francisco in mid-January, with the two sides announcing an agreement to "ensure the continuation of normal business operations by Standard Fruit in Nicaragua."

Standard Fruit's ships quickly resumed banana pickups and the fruit began reaching the United States again.

In the sweeping vacuity of diplomatic communiqués, the announcement said that all sides — government, producers, workers, shipper — were satisfied and that stability would prevail. For now, Nicaragua and Standard Fruit have pledged to disclose no details.

But at about that time, *Wall Street Journal* quoted Castle & Cooke's chief financial officer, Robert Cook, who said the agreement changed nothing, that Nicaragua made all the concessions and that the announcement was "for Nicaraguan consumption."

If true, the Sandinistas has slipped on a revolutionary banana peel. C & C's President D. J. Kirchhoff hit the roof about as quickly as a whole cluster of top bananas hit the roof in Managua. Kirchhoff protested to the *Journal*, saying middle-banana cook had been misquoted in a way that could harm relations between Nicaragua and the United States.

It has not backed away from its story or published the C & C letter, but Kirchhoff made certain that copies reached Nicaraguan hands.

Among other things, Kirchhoff's letter said, the San Francisco agreement was "a signal example of the sort of cooperation and 'arms length' dealings that can be achieved where (as in this case) both sides approach the solution of difficulties in a spirit of good faith and fair compromise."

"Neither side capitulated nor made substantial concessions," the letter went on. And, Kirchhoff added, C & C now has "a better understanding of the needs of the Nicaraguan nation and the Nicaraguan Government has a better understanding of the significant problems we face in competing successfully in the global banana industry."

Francisco J. D'Escoto, minister counselor at the Nicaraguan embassy and one of the banana negotiators, said the quoted remarks "which we prefer to ignore" rankled feelings sharply in his country.

"Those remarks brought back my youth when I read novels about foreign companies operating in developing countries," he said. "Both countries have a lot to learn about mutual respect... but we are pleased with Kirchhoff's letter and with his rebuke of the statement."

As explained by D'Escoto, Nicaraguan banana production will remain in private hands but be overseen by a new regulatory agency that is to assure that the plantation workers — about 3,000 heads of households — receive better pay and benefits.

Castle & Cooke owns none of the operations, but shares in the action by providing management and technical advice, assisting in the packing of about six million boxes of

fruit per year and buying the bananas that meet U.S. market standards.

"We want Standard Fruit to remain in Nicaragua," D'Escoto said, "but we were puzzled about why they would leave. The Nicaraguan Government is not interested in taking over lands that are in production. We welcome people who are producers. We need them."

"We want good relations with the United States. You will find very few small, developing countries saying that today," he added. "We are so set on this that we are having the New York State Bar Association prepare a new foreign investment law for us. This is the case because we trust the American people. We don't have the experience. We inherited a damaged, hungry country from the Somoza regime."

One of the benefits Standard Fruit got from the government of the late Anastasio Somoza, unlike other major banana-producing countries in the Western hemisphere, was no tax on export bananas. There may be now.

"We are not going to tax companies just because they are rich. But we are committed to restructuring our country socially and economically," D'Escoto said. "The banana workers were unhappy. Their standard of living is not proper, health and housing conditions are very poor — you must see it to understand it. Landowners and banana producers must play a larger role in helping them."

By Joan Nesbitt Crossley

The Tongue-tied American — Confronting the Foreign Language Crisis. By Congressman Paul Simon, Continuum publishing corporation, New York; 214 pgs. \$12.95

JEDDAH — The United States can be characterized as the home of the brave, and the land of the monolingual — so stated Dr. Rose Lee Haydin, a scholar of the language scene. Congressman Paul Simon gives an eloquent testimony to prove this statement true, in a series of documented, comprehensive, interesting, and exceptionally readable chapters.

Simon is the representative from Illinois, and is the chairman of the House Select Subcommittee on Education. He was appointed by ex-President Jimmy Carter, to a special commission to study the United States' foreign language problem.

Simon takes a hard line view of a virtually monolingual society. He states, "At a time when the national need dictates that we should be increasing the exposure of our citizens to other languages and cultures, the exposure is declining. Cultural isolation is a



STRINGED INSTRUMENTS: A guitar seller tries out one of his own 12-string models during a quiet moment at Cebu, the second largest city in the Philippines after Manila, famed for its guitars and other stringed instruments.

U.S. : Land of the monolingual

luxury the United States no longer can afford, but we are nevertheless culturally isolated."

In example, he says that of those who graduate from public high school in America today, fewer than four per cent have more than two years of a foreign language. The

even with this ethnic mix, nothing is being done to preserve this rich linguistic resource or to train people in the use of a language other than English. The United States' position in foreign relations, business and security all suffer due to its lack of understanding, Simon said in the book.

Everyone remembers when the Soviet leader Nikita Krushchev told the United States, "We will bury you." Everyone remembers wrong. The correct translation is, "We will survive you." Neither statement is pleasant, but the one the United States thought they heard is substantially more ominous sounding than what was actually said. Such nuances make a substantial difference in anger and misunderstandings. When ex-President Jimmy Carter visited Poland, the world guffawed at the translation errors. Carter's wish to "learn your opinions and understand your desires for the future" came out to be, "I desire the Poles carnally." The remark caused embarrassment to the president and the United States. A wrong translation between potential enemies can lead to difficulties much more serious than minor embarrassments, however.

Language is more than a social need; Simon states that international business relationships extend beyond importing and exporting. "Multinational businesses are a reality and are here to stay. Therefore, Americans need to study languages and cultures of other countries. The most useful international language in world trade is not necessarily English, but the language of the client," Simon adds.

The Helsinki Accords of 1975 obliges signatory nations to encourage the study of foreign languages, and Simon proposes to bring this about. "If English was good enough for our founding fathers, it's good enough for me," is a phrase that Simon says has several misconceptions. "Some of the founding fathers did not speak English. Of those who did speak English, many like Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin and John Adams also spoke other languages," Simon added.

Simon posed a question that few people think about or participate in as a common courtesy toward a country and its people. That language is a key to opening minds and changing attitudes. To speak, read, write and understand another language is the beginning of understanding other dreams, hopes and miseries — and most of all, other people.

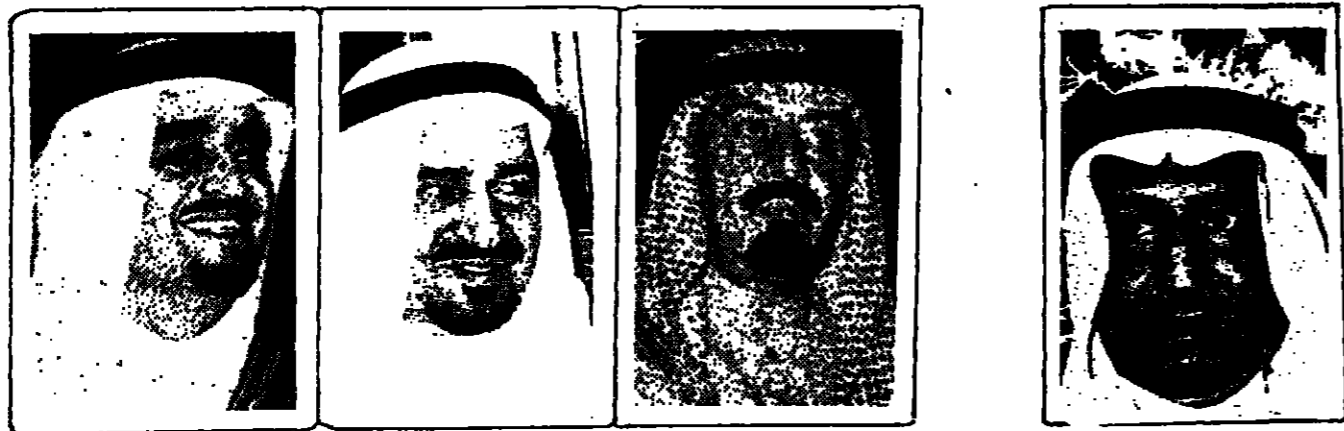
Book Review

United States continues to be the only nation where a student can graduate from college without having had one year of a foreign language during twelve years of schooling.

Because the knowledge of foreign language has diminished so substantially, the State Department no longer requires any background in another language as a condition of entry into foreign service.

The United States is home to millions whose first language is not English. One of every fifty Americans is foreign-born. But

THE SAUDI IRISH DAIRY CO



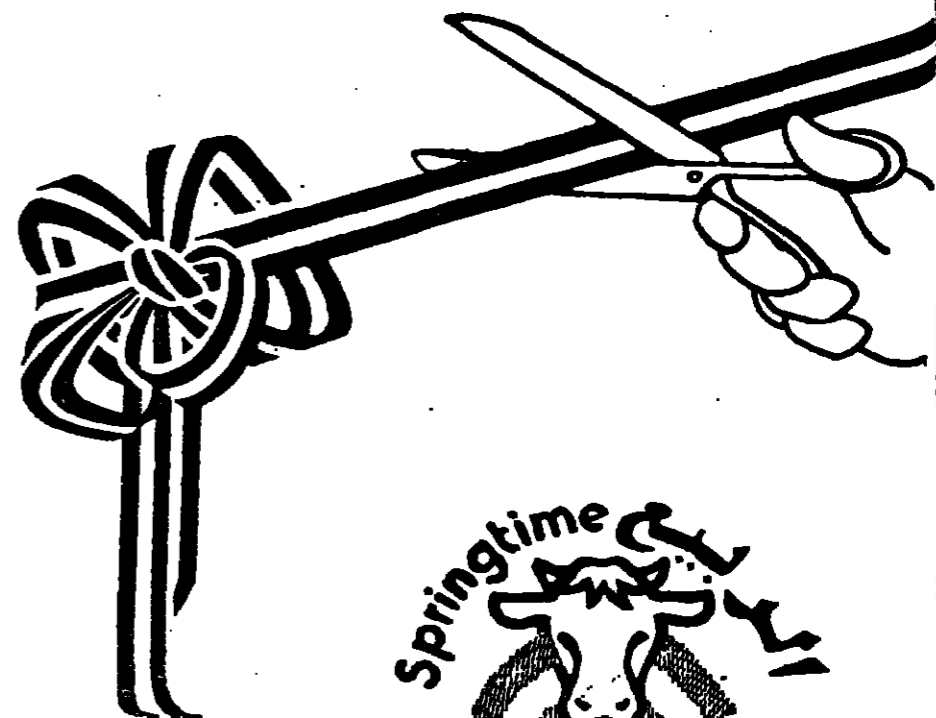
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In West German Soccer

Hamburg strengthens position

PARIS, Feb. 16 (AFP) — S.V. Hamburg lost their referee but not their important home match against F.C. Cologne to go clear at the top of the West German Division, Roma clinched a 1-2 away win to stay on course for the Italian League title, and in Spain, Atletico Madrid managed only a draw and had their lead over Barcelona cut to a single point.

The Hamburg-Cologne game had to be stopped after ten minutes when the referee limped off the pitch with a leg injury. His place was taken by one of the linesmen who in turn was replaced by one of the spectators. A goal in the 31st minute by Hartwig put Hamburg on their way and any hopes of Cologne clinching a late draw were destroyed by Hamburg's striker Hrusch who slammed home a second goal five minutes from time.

The result gave Hamburg both points and sent Cologne slipping further down the standings to eighth from sixth place.

Meanwhile Bayern Munich, Hamburg's closest rivals in what has become a two-side title race, could manage only a 2-2 draw away to Schalke.

Biggest score in the German League was notched up by Borussia Moenchengladbach who slammed visiting Bayer Leverkusen 5-1.

Pacesetters Roma and Inter-Milan were playing away from home in the Italian League but whereas Inter had to be satisfied with only one point at Cagliari, Roma made no mistakes at Brescia.

Roma took the lead in the dying second of the first-half thanks to a Bartolomei free-kick and although the home side equalized three minutes into the second-half through a headed goal by Rome-born striker Cristiesi, Niels Liedholm's men clinched victory through a Pruzzo penalty five minutes later.

Inter began well against Cagliari and were 1-0 after just 15 minutes thanks to an own-goal by Tavola.

But, watched by a 50,000 crowd, Cagliari turned on the pressure and only an outstanding performance by the visitors' goalkeeper Ivano Bordon saved Inter from a hammering. Even Bordon could not keep the home forwards out and they leveled at 1-1 through Pier-Paolo Verdini.

Juventus, without injured Irish international Liam Brady, stayed in touch with the leaders with a 1-2 away win over Come.

Bologna played bottom-of-the-table Perugia, a team like themselves penalized five points at the start of the season for their part in the betting scandal, and scored a handsome 4-0 victory.

But for the points penalty inflicted on them Bologna would be among teams challenging for League honors. As it is they are in seventh spot. Perugia, however, look doomed for relegation having scored only eight points from seventeen games.

The match between Naples and Ascoli was called off because inspection of the stadium, damaged in the earthquake which killed

nearly three thousand last November, had still not been completed.

The renewed earth tremors in Italy Saturday came when the players of both teams sat together watching a film show at a Naples cinema. As the building shook the players of both teams fled to the exits.

In Spain, Atletico Madrid defenders had their hands full at Seville where the local club's new signing from Brazil, Carlos Alberto Pitinho, played a blinder and scored in his debut.

Madrid hung on grimly for a 1-1 draw after Ruben Cano scored with a penalty.

With just ten matches left to play, Bar-

Bolivia scores facile win

LA PAZ, Bolivia, Feb. 16 (AP) — Bolivia defeated Venezuela 3-0 Sunday in a South American Group One elimination match for the 1982 World Cup Soccer Championship.

Miguel Aguilar scored in the 37th minute of the first half. Reynaldo and Aragonés in the second half.

The match put Bolivia and Brazil at the top of Group One eliminations for the World Cup, to be played in Madrid in 1982.

In London, Fourth Division Darlington held Mansfield 2-2 and kicked off Sunday soccer by pulling in almost 6,000 fans, more than double their league average this season.

They gave their supporters an encouraging start by scoring early. Ian Hamilton, whose cross was handled by Ian Wood, sent keeper Rod Arnold the wrong way.

Promotion-chasing Mansfield cashed in on a bad mistake by Alan Kamara to level through Russell Allen before half-time and took the lead when John McClelland fired in a corner.

Darlington stuck doggedly to the task, and two minutes from time leading goalscorer Allen Walsh headed in Hamilton's cross for his 17th goal of the season, to earn a deserved point.

English footballers are among the best-behaved in European competitions according to figures released by UEFA.

A survey of European, UEFA and Cup Winners Cup matches in 1979-80 revealed that English Clubs averaged only 0.66 of a booking per match in Europe.

The average from the 33 countries taking part was 1.63 bookings per side with the worst 2.0.

Commenting on the figures in the latest issue of FA Monday, Football Association chairman Sir Harold Thompson said: "While we would like to see a blank record, we can feel that as English clubs were among those playing the most matches, their overall record of behavior was good."

Meanwhile, Norwich City manager Ken Brown threatened to call off Kevin Bond's £450,000 transfer to Seattle Sounders unless his father John reaches some sort of agreement with the American club.

celona moved dangerously to within one point of the Leafs thanks to a 2-nil victory over Real Sociedad. Their West German international Schuster produced another dazzling display and Atletico will not be able to afford many more slip-ups. Valencia's title hopes suffered a dent when they were beaten at Real Madrid.

Meanwhile, in Portugal, Benfica stayed two points clear of Porto after scoring a one-sided 1-5 away victory over Portimonense. Porto also took both points but by a more modest 2-1 margin in their home match against Boavista.

Petty does it again

DAYTONA BEACH, Florida, Feb. 16 (AFP) — Veteran American driver Richard Petty, 43, won the 500 miles Daytona Auto Classic for the seventh time here Sunday.

The 43-year-old petty averaged 273 kms per hour in his Buick Regal for the 200-lap race to finish ahead of compatriots Bobby Allison in a Pontiac lemans and third-placed Ricky Rudd in an Oldsmobile Cutlass.

Petty first Nascar success dates back to 1955 and since then he has won 193 races in the championship.



VICTORY PATH: Hale Irwin on his way to victory

Irwin bags golf crown with record effort

HONOLULU, Hawaii, Feb. 16 (AP) — Hale Irwin, displaying the dogged determination that helped him to a couple of American National Championships, put on a birdie-eagle finish for a 3-under-par 69 and scored a record-setting six-stroke victory Sunday in the Hawaiian Open Golf Tournament.

Irwin snapped a 19-month winless string with a 265 total, a whopping 23 strokes under par on the 6,881-yard Waialae Country Club course and a tournament record.

He picked up \$58,500 from the total purse of \$235,000 for his 12th PGA tour title. It was his first victory since scoring his second UGMS Open triumph in 1979.

But, while he led all the way, set a scoring record and the margin of victory may have been impressive, this one didn't come easily.

A 10-under-par 62 in Saturday's third round had staked Irwin to a five-shot lead going into the last 18 holes of play. But he made consecutive bogeys on the seventh and eighth holes and John Schroeder, the only man with any realistic hopes of overtaking him, birdied the ninth.

That cut Irwin's lead to two shots. But the gritty guy who makes a habit of winning on the tougher courses was equal to the task. No one ever got closer.

He added a little margin with a birdie on the 12th, then closed with a record-setting flourish.

Irwin threw his tee shot some 3-4 feet from the flag for a birdie-2 on the difficult 17th. That nailed down the victory and he was one shot off the tournament scoring record set by Andy Bean a year ago. He reached the par-5

18th with his second shot and rammed in a 15-18 foot eagle putt that put him 23 shots under par.

Don January, a 15-year-old slow-moving veteran and sometimes participant on the seniors tour, came on to take second with a 69 and a 271 total.

Ben Crenshaw, Try Diehl and Japan's leading player, Isao Aoki, were next at 77. Diehl shot a 70 in the almost-windless weather. Aoki had a 69 and Crenshaw closed up with a 67.

"I really wasn't trying to catch Irwin," said Crenshaw, who once was within two shots of the top. "You have to be realistic. He's too good a player. I was playing for second."

The group at 273 included Bean, Tom Watson, George Archer, John Mahaffey, Schroeder, Bean, Mahaffey and Archer had 67's, Watson 68 and Schroeder matched par 72.

Lee Trevino shot 68-274. Bruce Lietzke, two-time winner this year, birdied his last three holes for a 69 that extended his string of consecutive rounds at par or better to 18. He finished at 275.

In Florida, veteran Joanne Carner battled wind and rain Sunday to climb back on top and win the \$100,000 LPGA Golf Tourney meant on the first hole of a sudden death play off with Dot Germain.

Germain, the defending champion, birdied the 18th hole after three earlier bogeys to catch Carner and tie the 54-hole Ladies Professional Golf Association event at 215. Carner had started the round in a five-way tie for second, two strokes behind Germain.

Carner, who led most of the day, bogeyed the 17th to lose her grip. But she shot par of the par-4, 359-yard first hole to wrap up the first prize of \$15,000.

Germain hit her second shot into a front bunker to the left of the fairway and then soared over the green on her third shot. Her fourth put her 10 feet from the hole and she two-putted to complete the playoff.

Carner, the first round leader, had rounds of 69, 74 and 72 on the par-72, 6,214-yard Pasadena Golf Club course. Germain had rounds of 71 and 70 before settling for a 2-over-par 74 Sunday.

Australian Jan Stephenson finished one stroke behind the leaders at 216 and Cynthia Hill closed at 218. Jane Blalock, Kathy Whitworth and Patty Hayes all finished at 219.

A motorcycle accident kept Carner off much of the LPGA tour in 1979. But she came back strong in 1980 and won five tournaments and about \$186,000 in prize money.

Germain did not play in the LPGA's opening 1981. Her victory in this tournament a year ago was her only triumph in five years on the tour.

Windy conditions hampered play throughout the three-day tournament and Sunday's round was played in intermittent showers. Winds gusted up to 25 miles per hour. The tournament began with 109 entrants and 72 survived the cut at 10-over par 154.

Steve Scott bows to Coghlan again

OTTAWA, Feb. 16 (Irishman Eamonn Coghlan dashed to victory in the miles in an indoor meeting here Saturday, beating arch-rival Steve Scott of the United States for the second time in two days. Coghlan finished in a time of 3 mins. 57.9 secs, two seconds clear of Scott. The American complained that Coghlan had involuntarily closed him out in the last lap but promised to make him eat dust in their next encounter.

Meanwhile, Soeren Schlegel set a world indoor record time of 9.50 seconds for the men's 100 yards at the East German Athletic Championships Sunday.

Schlegel clipped four-hundredths of a second off the old mark recorded by American Harvey Glance in Houston, Texas, a year ago.

Earlier Marita Koch, women's 400 meters Olympic champion, equalled compatriot Mariëtte Gohr's world indoor 60 meters record by clocking 7.10 seconds.

In Gohr's absence, Koch went on to win the 100 yards in 10.33 seconds, only four-hundredths of a second outside Gohr's world best time.

Nasim bowls to a new mark

Indian Embassy prevails in thriller

By Peter Rodrigues

JEDDAH, Feb. 16 — So near yet so far. That in a nutshell should describe the excitement that was built up in the Benson & Hedges Cricket League tussle between Indian Embassy and 1395's; the former winning by 15 runs.

At the Jeddah Oval ground Thursday, Indian Embassy making first use of the wicket began briskly with Khaliq (31) and Naser (Winnie Murray) scoring a fine 47. But later they lost six wickets for just 26 runs to round up their innings at 142 for 9.

Replying to their opponents total of 142 for 9, 1395's seemed to have thrown in the towel when they began rather sedately and in the process lost two quick wickets. But in walked Morris and together with Shahid Amin changed the complexion of the game

as they stepped up the scoring rate at a whirlwind pace. Morris, who earlier sparked with the gloves, exposed the limitations in the India Embassy attack and aggregated a breezy 27, being more forceful on the outside. He, however, fell to Maqsood while attempting a mighty hit. Amin, technically sound, compiled his 45 with strokes all round the wicket.

The exit of these, once again saw a slump in the run-rate, though at one stage they needed 26 runs off two overs to come out victors. But despite their sincere efforts, they fell short just by inches and had to rest content with the thrills of a nail-biting finish.

But Nasim of Pak Saudi cornered the day's glory when with a fantastic spell of 5 for 9 bettered Amin's record of 5 for 15 set only a fortnight back and bowled his side to

a fluent victory over IAL. Put into bat, Pak Saudi, with Nasim (26), Asim (31), Rizwan (26) and Irfan (28) making valuable contributions totaled 137 for 9 and then went on to dismiss IAL for a paltry 73, Nasim being the chief wrecker.

In yet another match, Yellow Rose scored a fluent 8-wicket victory over JCC. Going into bat first, JCC totaled 115. But this moderate score proved too small for Yellow Rose who betwined the same at the expense of just two wickets. Amjad (41) and Fayaz (35) shone for Yellow Rose.

Another easy victory was recorded by Pak Jeddah who beat the University lads by 10 wickets. Calling correctly, University, despite a fighting 40 by Farooq, scored a poor 72. Aqeel bagging 3 for 4 and Sahail 2 for 13. In reply, Pak Jeddah openers Razi (28) and Sahail (43) hit the required runs for victory without being separated.

Tate on comeback trail

KNOXVILLE, Tennessee, Feb. 16 (AFP) — Former world heavyweight champion John Tate made a successful comeback to the ring here this weekend when he outpointed fellow American Harvey Steichen, over ten rounds.

The 26-year-old former World Boxing Association (WBA) titleholder had looked likely to retire when he was beaten in 1980. His first defeat, against compatriot Mike Weaver lost him his title and the second against Canadian hope Trevor Berbick made many people write Tate off as a top-title contender.

Beribick has since been lined up as the next challenger for American World Boxing Council (WBC) Champion Larry Holmes.

Steichen gave Tate a useful ring workout but was not in a class to fully test the former champion and decide if he is still a threat to the world's top heavyweights.

Meanwhile, Syrian boxer Mustafa Hamsho won the right to challenge world middleweight champion Marvin Hagler for the title when he outpointed Curtis Parker of the United States over ten rounds here Sunday night.

Hamsho, 26, who won the fight on a split

BRIEFS

DETROIT, (AP) — Michael Desaulniers, a Harvard student, swept the U.S. National Professional Squash Championships here Sunday, beating top-seeded Sharif Khan in four games. Desaulniers jumped off to a first-game early lead and hung on to win in overtime, 18-16. Kahn came back to take the second game 12-15, but Desaulniers regained control of the match, winning the third and fourth games 15-9 and 15-11.

ROME, (AFP) — Soviet exile Victor Korchnoi, three points clear of his nearest rivals after the eighth and next-to-last round, now is a sure bet to win the International Chess Tournament ending Monday. Korchnoi is boning up to challenge champion Anatoly Karpov of the Soviet Union for the world title this summer.

BATH, England, (AFP) — England will be without fly-half John Horton for their "Calcutta Cup" match against Scotland in the five-nation tournament next Saturday. The Bath player pulled a leg muscle in a club match against Gloucester this weekend. Cambridge University and Coventry player Hugh Davies is tipped to take over Horton's place in the England line-up.

CALGARY, Alberta, (AFP) — George Ager of Austria won the final of the parallel special Slalom at Paskapoo near here Sunday in the World Professional Skiing Championships ahead of Manabu Sawaguchi of Japan. Greg Hann of Canada beat Hans Hinterseer of Austria into third place.

APELDOORN, Netherlands, (AFP) — The Netherlands won a place in the King's Cup Tennis Tournament First Division with a 2-1 victory over Ireland here Sunday. Doubles pair Tom Okker and Max Albert clinched it for the Netherlands when they beat Ireland's Sean Sorensen and Matt Doylee 2-6, 7-6, 7-6.

decision, has 31 victories for one defeat and one draw, compared to Parker's 17 wins and two defeats.

In Sunday's fight referee and one judge gave five rounds to the Syrian and four to Barker, with one round drawn. The second judge gave Parker the advantage in seven rounds to three.

In Houston World Boxing Council bantamweight champion Lupe Pintor held his first workout here Sunday in preparation for his title defense against Hosea Uziga of Argentina, the No. 9 contender.

Pintor, of Mexico City, and Uziga will battle in a 15-round bout next Sunday at Sam Houston Coliseum.

"I know I have to be at my very best because I've seen Uziga fight and he is very good," the champion said.

Pintor has a 40-4-1 record, including 33 knockouts, and will be making his sixth title defense against Uziga, 28-1-3.

In his last defense, Pintor won a 15-round decision over Alberto Davilo Dec. 19 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

A victory by heavyweight Tyrone Biggs enabled the United States to snatch a 6-5 victory over Kenya in the Amateur Boxing International in Nashville Sunday. It was the Americans' first amateur boxing win in three matches. Last month they were beaten both by Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union.



FROM SCHOOLYARD TO ICE-HOCKEY FIELD: A sports-loving Swiss schoolhouse caretaker converted the schoolyard into an ice-hockey field from water, actual cold temperature, and wooden slide-construction.

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doj... (handwritten signature)

Thrilling victories in NBA

Silas takes San Antonio ahead

NEW YORK, Feb. 16 (AP) — The last two minutes are supposed to be vital in the National Basketball Association. San Antonio's James Silas popped in an 18-foot jump shot with three seconds left to lift his team to a 110-108 victory over the Milwaukee Bucks in a battle between division leaders.

Otis Birdsong scored on a pass from Phil Ford, also with three seconds left, to give the Kansas City Kings a 107-105 victory over the Seattle SuperSonics, who had rallied from a 21-point deficit.

Cliff Robinson scored 36 points, including a jump shot with 22 seconds left that broke a tie and gave the New Jersey Nets their first three-game winning streak of the season with a 134-132 victory over the Golden State Warriors.

Larry Bird followed his own missed shot and scored the winning basket with 56 seconds remaining as the Boston Celtics pulled out a 120-118 triumph over the Denver Nuggets.

Elsewhere, the Philadelphia 76ers trounced the Atlanta Hawks 116-98, the Indiana Pacers downed the Chicago Bulls 113-107, the Los Angeles Lakers defeated the Dallas Mavericks 107-99, the New York Knicks whipped the Phoenix Suns 115-101

and the Portland Trail Blazers crushed the Utah Jazz 118-84.

In San Antonio, they call Silas "captain late" for his end-of-game heroics which are rapidly becoming routine. It was the second game in a row in which Silas scored in a long-distance jump shot in the closing second to seal a victory for the Spurs. This one stretched their record home-court winning streak to 17 games. San Antonio's George Gervin led all scorers with 33 points and Silas added 16. Macques Johnson led Milwaukee with 22.

Kings 107, SuperSonics 105: Birdsong's game-winning field goal was preceded by a baskets by Ford with eight seconds left that produced a 105-105 tie. After Ford's score, Seattle called a timeout to set up its final play, but Ford intercepted John Johanson's inbound pass and heaved the ball downcourt to Birdsong.

Ford led all scorers with 23 points and Reggie King added 20 for Kansas City. Paul Westphal came off the bench to score 20 for Seattle, which trailed by as many as 21 points in the first half but fought back to lead by six with 4:30 left in the game.

Nets 134, Warriors 132: New Jersey's Robinson matched the 36-points performance of ex-Net Bernard King, whose basket

with 39 seconds remaining tied the score at 132. Mike Newlin added 35 points for the Nets while Jov Barry Carroll had 27 for the Warriors, who led 121-101 the start of the final period before a 17-4 burst put the Nets on top. Earlier, the Nets trailed by as many as 16 points.

Celtics 120, Nuggets 118: Bird's game-winning basket provided Boston's only lead of the second half. Bird wound up with 28 points while teammate Cedric Maxwell had a season-high 34. Dan Issel led Denver with 27 points and Alex English added 23.

Pacers 113, Bulls 107: George McGinnis scored a season-high 27 points and pulled down nine rebounds to lead Indiana. The Pacers, who led by 16 points with 10:58 remaining, saw their lead shrink to three with 1:34 left, but four free throws by Johnny Davis sealed the victory. The Pacers had six players in double figures. Reggie Theus led Chicago with 26.

Lakers 107, Mavericks 99: Kareem Abdul-Jabbar scored 16 of his 35 points in a second-half surge by Los Angeles. After Dallas tied the game 62-62 midway through the third period, Abdul-Jabbar scored 16 of the Lakers' 24 points in the next nine minutes and Los Angeles moved out to an 86-76 lead. Jamaal Wilkes scored 23 and Norm Nixon added 20 for the Lakers. Oliver Mack led the Mavericks with 19.

Knicks 115, Mavericks 99: Campy Russell scored a season-high 36 points to lead New York to its eighth straight triumph. Russell scored 14 points in the third period as the Knicks opened an 87-71 lead. The Suns trailed by only 68-67 with six minutes left in the third period before Russell and Bill Cartwright hit eight points apiece as New York ended the period with a 19-4 spurt.

Trail Blazers 118, Jazz 84: Billy Ray Bates and Kelvin Ransey combined for 44 points to lead Portland. After a first quarter in which the teams swapped the lead 20 times, the Blazers outscored Utah 18-4 in the final eight minutes of the second period to take a 56-38 halftime lead. Then they started the second half by outscoring the Jazz 12-4. Ransey scored 15 of his 19 points in the first half while Bates scored 19 of his game-high 25 in the second half.

Jaeger routs Wade

OAKLAND, California, Feb. 16 (AP) — Teen-ager Andrea Jaeger, giving away 20 years experience to her opponent wore down Virginia Wade and won 6-3, 6-1, Sunday in the finals of the \$125,000 Avon Championships of California.

The 15-year-old, seeded second, won her second tournament title of the year despite playing on sore feet, which bothered her throughout the week. She earned \$24,000 for the tennis victory, while Wade, 35, won \$12,000 for her best tournament showing in 11 months.

Fifth-seeded Wade, the former Wimbledon champion, combatted Jaeger's baseline game by coming to the net often. She was successful at times, but more often she was beaten as Jaeger scored on passing shots and lob.

Close tussles in the offing

By Christine Lamb

JEDDAH, Feb. 16 — Competition for the top spot in the First Division of the Jeddah Tennis League which has reached the half way stage is very close, with two teams having the same number of points (6), Armaska and Saudi Letco. The second half of the season promises some very close matches not only between the two leading teams but also with Dunes 'A' only one point behind, and NJIA and Raytheon 'A' within range of the leaders. Both these latter teams made good starts to the season, but have fallen away in recent weeks, but NJIA in particular can look forward to the return of their No. 1 player Jerry Hurst, who had been on a vacation. A feature of the two leading teams has been the tremendous team spirit shown by the members of the teams, with everyone playing their part in their successes.

The Second Division championship is likewise dominated by two teams with an impressive Raytheon 'C' leading on "sets average" from Riofinex but with Raytheon 'B', and Bell Canada within striking range. Mobil started the season well but are currently going through a sticky patch and are now equal on points with up and coming Armaska 'B' and Saudia 'B'. Eighteen teams are taking part in the league — involving over 200 players every Saturday in various compounds throughout Jeddah.

Indians make clean sweep against Thais

BANGKOK, Feb. 16 (AFP) — India completed a 5-0 sweep of their Davis Cup tie against Thailand here at the Hua Mark Stadium when Vijay and Anand Amritraj and Ramesh Krishnan toyed with the local duo of Pichet Boratissa and Sombat Uamngkol to win 5-0 and advanced to the next round.

The powerful Indian combination powered their way past the plucky but inexperienced Thais without dropping a single set and in so doing served notice that they will be a difficult team to toss next year.

India is the only country in Asia to reach the final of the Davis Cup twice — in 1964 and 1974 — being beaten by Australia 1-4 on the first occasion and then losing by default to South Africa, which country they refused to play on the grounds of apartheid. Both the Amritraj brothers were in the Indian team in 1974.

In Santiago, Chile defeated Uruguay 5-0 in the American Zone Davis cup tennis semifinals that ended here Sunday. Chilean Ricardo Acuna defeated Uruguayan Diego Perez 6-3, 6-2 while teammate Belus Prajoux downed his Uruguayan opponent Albert Laborde 6-3, 6-2.

Chile faces Colombia who defeated Venezuela next month in the zone finals.



IN FULL FLOW: John McEnroe, with his eyes on the ball, rushes across the court to reach a Guillermo Vilas return.

In grueling Pepsi final McEnroe ousts Vilas

BOCA RATON, Florida, Feb. 16 (AP) — John McEnroe shook the challenge from Guillermo Vilas to win the \$300,000 Pepsi Grand Slam of tennis Sunday 6-7, 6-4, 6-0.

It took three hours and 15 minutes for McEnroe to win the grueling match, a repeat of the 1979 consolation event here in which McEnroe beat Vilas in straight sets. McEnroe won \$150,000 and Vilas earned \$75,000.

In the consolation match, Brian Teacher beat Tim Gullikson 6-2, 6-7, 4-0.

McEnroe, who became the second-ranked tennis player in the world largely on the strength of a serve and volley attack, stayed on the baseline Sunday and punished Vilas with accurate ground strokes.

McEnroe's game plan was in contrast to Vilas' style of play. Vilas, the No. 4 ranked player, rushed the net throughout the match and held a 4-2 lead in the first set before McEnroe settled down.

McEnroe emerged as a slight favorite in this four-player tournament when top-ranked Bjorn Borg of Sweden pulled out on Friday after he came down with the flu. Vilas is a clay court specialist and McEnroe had said he favored faster surfaces. Vilas

appeared in control of the tempo of the match in the first set as McEnroe was visibly upset by the catcalls from some in the crowd of 11,500.

Twice during the first set, McEnroe asked umpire Florence Blanchard to request that the crowd calm down. McEnroe got back into the match in the fifth game of the second set when he broke Vilas' serve. McEnroe had seven service breaks, while Vilas had four.

McEnroe, the 1980 U.S. Open champion and third place finisher here for the last two years, won a crucial battle in the ninth game of the second set when Vilas floated a backhand long over the baseline to put McEnroe ahead 5-4. McEnroe then breezed through the next seven games to close out the match.

Meanwhile, eight players made their way through qualifying rounds Sunday for the week-long \$175,000 Grand Marnier-ATP Tennis games at La Quinta resort near Palm Springs.

Among the non-qualifiers was former Davis Cup star John Lloyd of Great Britain. Glen Holroyd defeated Lloyd 7-5, 5-7, 7-5 to oust the husband of women's U.S. Open Champion Chris Evert.

In Al-Khobar tennis Jones, Jackson triumph

By Geoff Gardner

AL-KHOBAR, Feb. 16 — Wendy Jones and Diane Jackson made it two in a row as they again bested June Brandie and Cynthia Copeland in the flight one ladies' doubles final of the Al-Khobar 1981 Invitational Tennis Tournament. And they won a bit more easily with a straight set 6-4, 6-3 win at the Northrop-Al-Khobar compound Friday.

Unlike last year's dramatic match, which was settled by tie-breakers in the first and second set and a 7-5 score in the third, Jones and Jackson's play was marked by a strong net game and Jones' hard deep baseline shots.

Nagelsen claims title

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Feb. 16 (AP) — Third-seeded Betsy Nagelsen defeated unseeded Renee Blount 7-6, 6-4 Sunday to win the \$30,000 Avon Futures of Columbus Women's Tennis Tournament.

Trailing 5-3 in the first set, Nagelsen used a strong serve-and-volley game to tie the match at 5-5. Nagelsen went on to win a 14-point tiebreaker 8-6 after the set had reached 6-6.

The second set opened with five successive service breaks before Nagelsen held serve in the sixth game to take a 4-2 lead.

Blount and Jane Stratton lost the doubles title 6-4, 6-3 to Marcella Mesker of the Netherlands and Christiane Jolissaint of Switzerland.

Nagelsen earned \$3,500 for her first-place finish, while Blount earned \$1,900 as the singles runner-up and split \$800 for the second-place finish in doubles.

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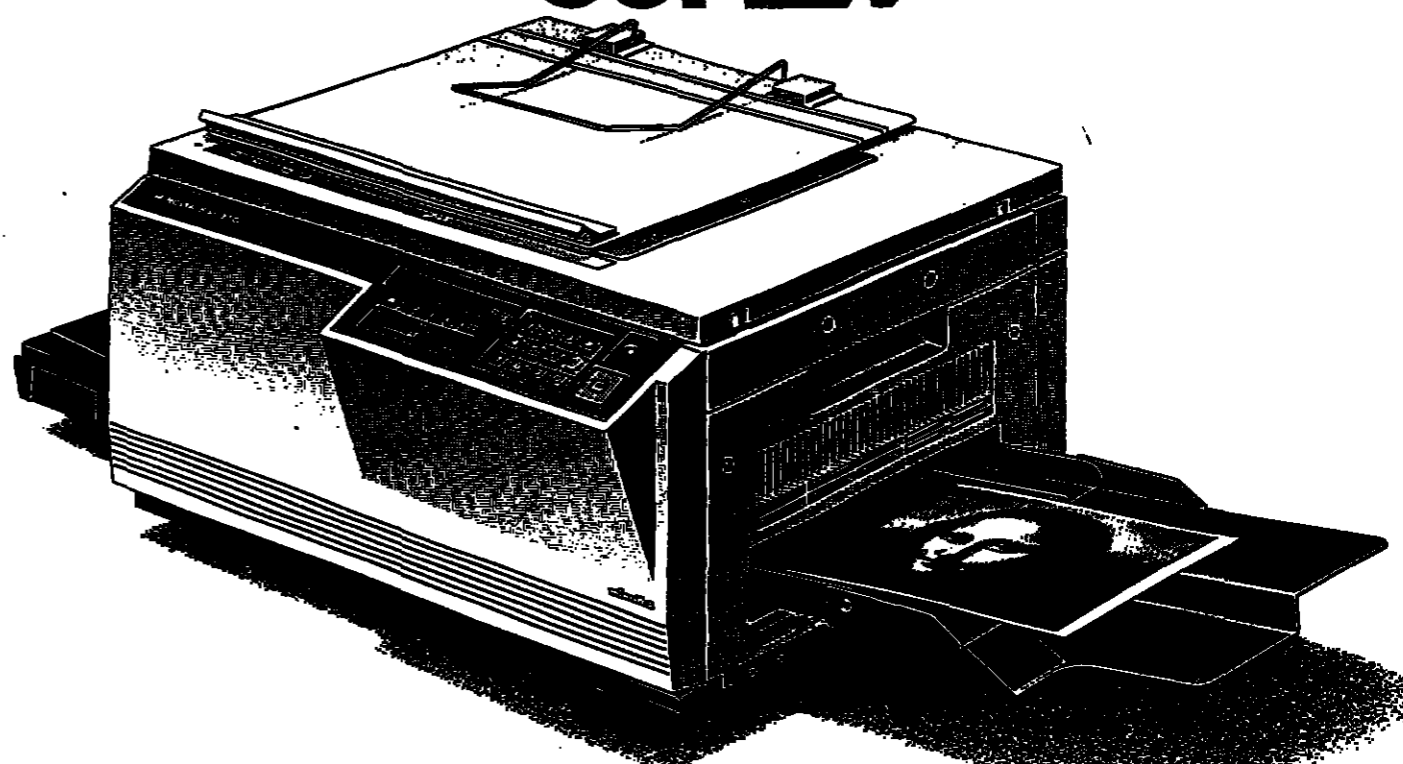
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Package plan

U.S. moves to break 'iron triangle'

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (AP) — Budget strategists of the Reagan administration are moving on several fronts to break the so-called "iron triangle," an alliance of Congressional sub-committee chairmen, bureaucrats and interest-group laid plans to cut U.S. government spending.

expected to play crucial roles in the drama surrounding President Ronald Reagan's budget-slashing ambitions agree that he has the best chance of any recent United States president to make substantial cuts, although several say he can't possibly get all he is expected to ask for.

American firms to fight cuts in Export-Import Bank budget

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (AP) — Hundreds of corporations, fearing the loss of millions of dollars in overseas sales, are gearing up to fight the Reagan administration's proposed cuts in the budget of the Export-Import Bank, which aids U.S. companies doing business abroad.

The iron triangle, labeled by government budget-cutters from earlier administrations, is the coalition of Congressional sub-committee chairmen who help create or finance government programs, the assistant secretaries and deputy assistant secretaries who run them, and the interest groups that represent the programs' beneficiaries.

The sub-committee chairmen often have a paternal affection for the programs. The bureaucrats tend to believe their programs should be bigger and better each year. And the interest-group lobbyists are always on hand to remind the other two sides of the triangle how important their constituencies are.

Reagan administration personnel officers already are dismantling one link — ridding the government of holdover program heads who might try to defend their areas against Budget Director David Stockman's onslaught, and appointing others believed to be committed to the president's spending cuts.

Edwin Meese, Reagan's closest adviser, said recently that the White House preferred empty offices to ones occupied by holdover appointees.

Reagan strategists hope that speed, circumstance and attention to detail will help them disarm sub-committee chairmen who helped shatter the budget-cutting dreams of three previous administrations.

Republicans won a Senate majority in the November election. And while the Democrats retain a titular majority in the House of Representatives, Reagan's operatives count on a conservative majority there to outweigh the party balance.

Several sources also said the widespread talk of massive cuts has prompted unwelcome assistance from some powerful interests who are pinpointing problem areas and expendable portions of their programs in hopes of saving the parts that do the most good.

Tom Korologos, a Washington lobbyist who helped map the president's strategy during the transition before returning to his private firm, said Reagan's chances of success are better than his predecessors' because: "He's coming off an election where people voted heavily for change... the closer the election the better the chances because Congress has more courage when the will of the voters is still fresh in everyone's mind."

Kuwait raises contributions to IDB

KUWAIT, Feb. 16 (R) — Kuwait has increased its subscription in the capital of the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank by 150 per cent, government spokesman Abdul-Aziz has said.

He said cabinet Sunday decided to raise Kuwait's contribution from 100 million Islamic dinars (\$120 million) to 250 million dinars (\$300 million) to enable the bank to fulfill its objectives. The Islamic dinar, equivalent to one Special Drawing Rights, is the unit of account used by the Islamic Development Bank.



ECONOMIC MESSAGE: Reagan gets comfortable in an easy chair in Aspen Lodge at the presidential retreat to work on the hard task of going over the economic message he will deliver to a joint session of Congress.

Besides readjustment policy China faces acute inflation

PEKING, Feb. 16 (AFP) — China, once believed wrongly to be a country without inflation and unemployment, is now suffering severely from these two problems in addition to difficulties over its economic readjustment policy involving the cancellation of some major industrial contracts with foreign firms.

The only precise figure for inflation ever published is that it was running at 5.8 per cent in 1979, but Chinese economists view this an unreal and outdated reflection of what is really happening.

Unofficially inflation is running at nearly 20 per cent so far as the average Chinese is concerned, bearing in mind special considerations such as the remarkable rigidity of the market where there is scarcely any idea of what choice means.

It is not unusual to see a shop suspend the sale of ordinary goods to offer customers only so-called "superior" goods — at least so far as price is concerned.

Other shops make use of the illegal practice of compulsory purchase whereby the purchase of a bottle of beer, for example, is

conditional on the purchase of an unsaleable bottle of soda, or where good cigarettes may only be bought together with two packets of the worst brand.

The authorities apparently want to admit that inflation is higher than the figure given for 1979 and some recent signs indicate that they recognize a rate of 6.5 per cent at least where retail sales are concerned.

The most spectacular recent example of inflation has occurred in the tourist industry. Careful estimates suggest that price rises in this sector are around the 24 per cent level, but it is difficult to see whether this reflects the real underlying rate.

Price rises by official services, euphemistically described as "readjustment", can amount to as much as 200 or 300 per cent from one day to the next. These moves are quite arbitrary and independent of any control mechanism such as competition.

Iran resumes oil supply to Japan

TOKYO, Feb. 16 (AP) — Iran will resume crude oil shipments to Japan this month after a ten-month suspension, oil industry sources said Monday.

The sources said Japan will purchase 170,000 to 180,000 barrels of Iranian oil a day, about 4 per cent of Japan's total oil imports, from January through September under contracts with the National Iranian Oil Company.

Most of the 12 Japanese oil importers negotiating with NIOC have already reached agreement, the sources said. Negotiations have been going on in Tehran since Japan lifted its economic sanctions against Iran soon after the U.S. hostages were released.

The sources said the Japanese will pay the Iranian government's price of \$37 a barrel plus a \$1.8 surcharge per barrel during the first three months of the contract, making the average price \$37.60 per barrel.

The price is the same as for British Petroleum and Royal Dutch-Shell in 1981 import contracts signed earlier. BP and Shell contracted to buy 65,000 barrels and 110,000 barrels of Iranian crude a day respectively.

Japan, which imports 99 per cent of its oil, imported about 530,000 barrels a day, 11 per cent of total needs, from Iran until last April when shipments were suspended over a pricing dispute.

Foreign Exchange Rates

Quoted at 3:00 P.M. Monday

| | SAMA | Cash | Transfer |
|-------------------------|--------|-----------|----------|
| Bahraini Dinar | — | 8.25 | 8.88 |
| Belgian Franc (1,000) | 97.00 | — | — |
| Canadian Dollar | 2.78 | — | — |
| Deutsche Mark (100) | 155.00 | 154.50 | 148.90 |
| Dutch Guilder (100) | 143.00 | — | 137.25 |
| Egyptian Pound | — | 4.15 | 4.33 |
| Emirates Dirham (100) | — | 91.15 | 91.10 |
| French Franc (100) | 67.00 | 66.00 | 64.65 |
| Greek Drachma (1,000) | — | 72.25 | 73.90 |
| Indian Rupee (100) | — | — | 40.45 |
| Iranian Rial (100) | — | — | — |
| Israeli Dinar | — | 8.25 | — |
| Italian Lira (10,000) | 33.00 | 33.50 | 32.08 |
| Japanese Yen (1,000) | 16.30 | — | 16.15 |
| Jordanian Dinar | — | 10.34 | 10.33 |
| Kuwaiti Dinar | — | 12.23 | 12.18 |
| Lebanese Lira (100) | — | 86.00 | 83.30 |
| Malaysian Ringgit (100) | — | 74.00 | 72.50 |
| Philippine Peso (100) | — | — | 33.90 |
| Saudi Riyal (100) | — | — | 44.80 |
| Swiss Franc (100) | 7.78 | 7.57 | 7.78 |
| Qatari Riyal (100) | — | 92.00 | 92.00 |
| Singapore Dollar | — | — | 1.59 |
| Spanish Peseta (1,000) | — | — | 41.15 |
| Swiss Franc (100) | 171.00 | 166.00 | 163.10 |
| Syrian Lira (100) | — | 62.00 | 62.00 |
| Turkish Lira (1,000) | — | 36.00 | 36.00 |
| U.S. Dollar | 3.33 | 3.343 | 3.35 |
| Yemeni Rial (100) | — | — | 73.50 |
| Gold kg. | — | 53,200.00 | — |
| 10 Toin bar | — | 6,250.00 | — |
| Ounce | — | 1.730 | — |

Cash and Transfer rates supplied by Al-Riyal Company for Currency Exchange and Commerce, Galat St. Sharaf, Jeddah — Tel: 642832.

Saudi Arabian Government Tenders

| Authority | Description | No. of Tender | Price SR | Closing Date |
|--|--|---------------|----------|--------------|
| Directorate General of Municipal and Rural Affairs, Central Province | Supply of drinking water through 85 tankers in Al-Kharj and its dependencies | 100 | — | March 14 |
| Directorate General of Municipal and Rural Affairs, Western Province | Temporary asphaltting of roads in Al-Mudraq | 16/M/1401 | 200 | March 1 |
| Municipality of Medina | Construction of a vegetable and meat market in Al-Qoz town, Qunfuzah | 18/M | 300 | March 3 |
| Directorate General of Meteorology, Jeddah | To undertake illumination project (stage 12) | — | 2500 | March 9 |
| Directorate General of Meteorology, Jeddah | Operation and maintenance of observatory instruments at the new airport | — | 100 | March 7 |

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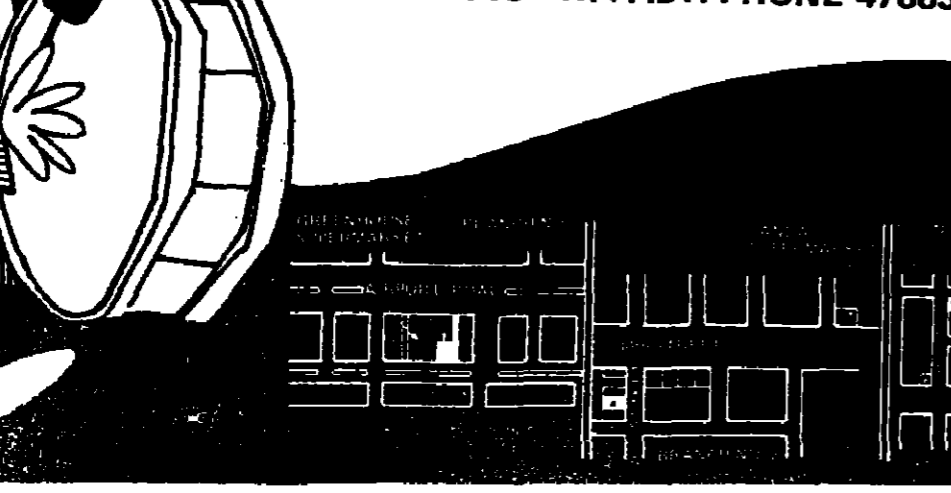
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Rajai meets Soviet envoy

Iran says USSR policy similar to America's

TEHRAN, Feb. 16 (Agencies) — Tehran radio has broadcast an account of a formal meeting between Iranian Prime Minister Muhammad Ali Rajai and Soviet Ambassador Vladimir Vinnogradov which contained Iran's sharpest criticism of the Soviet Union since the revolution two years ago.

U.S. policies threaten peace, PCC declares

DAMASCUS, Feb. 16 (R) — Palestinian leaders have said that the new U.S. administration was pursuing policies that threatened peace and stability in the Middle East. A statement issued Sunday after a meeting of the Palestine Central Council (PCC) said U.S. policy was hostile to the Palestinians and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

No troops in Ogaden, Somalia says

NAIROBI, Feb. 16 (AP) — A Somali government official denied that there were any Somali soldiers in the disputed Ogaden desert province of Ethiopia, but said Somali troops were "face-to-face" with Ethiopian troops at the border.

Israeli inflation rises 7.3 per cent

TEL AVIV, Feb. 16 (AP) — Israel's cost of living index jumped 7.3 per cent during January, the central bureau of statistics announced Sunday. If inflation continues at the current rate, it will reach an annual figure of 133 per cent. Inflation for 1980 was 132 per cent.

States over Iran's war with Iraq. The radio said Sunday that in criticizing the United States, the Soviet ambassador referred to its policies on El Salvador, Chile and South Korea. The Iranian prime minister agreed but introduced Iraq and Afghanistan as examples of Soviet policy.

According to the radio account, Rajai gave the ambassador 20 minutes to explain what he described as Soviet silence on "Iraqi aggression" against Iran and cut off the ambassador to say that the Soviet Union had provided arms to Iraq and could have made it withdraw its forces in the first week of the war.

Vinnogradov had started with a speech in which he said he wanted to warn Iran against an American plot to conspire against revolutionary movements in the pretext of fighting terrorism.

Rajai replied: "The mere claim that you are anti-imperialist is not enough for us" and called on the Soviet Union to declare that "the war against Iran is an imperialist war. We think that you are either the United States' allies in this war or that 63 years after the revolution, you still lack an attitude expected from a revolutionary country."

"We think Iraq's weapons are supplied by you," Rajai was quoted by the radio as saying. "You should ask your government to declare officially its stand on Iraq. Then we shall be able to tell whether you favor imperialist or revolutionary."

But Mogadishu radio, in a broadcast monitored here Monday, also quoted Samatar as saying: "At this moment, the Ethiopians have occupied the so-called de facto border. We are face to face with the Ethiopians at the frontier." Samatar did say, however, that fighters of the Western Somali Liberation Front (WSLF) who, he said, the Somali government supported "diplomatically and humanely," had been involved in clashes with Ethiopian forces in the area, mainly inhabited by people of Somali ethnic origin.



Prime Minister Rajai

Israeli court bars takeover of W. Bank firm

TEL AVIV, Feb. 16 (Agencies) — The Israeli supreme court Monday barred a government takeover of the Arab-owned Electric Power Company serving the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem. The decision backed the pleas of the company's lawyers that the takeover of the company's operations in the West Bank was contrary to international law, but left the way open for Israeli control of supplies in East Jerusalem, which was annexed by Israel in 1967.

The court said, however, that in this case, the government would have to reopen negotiations with the company on a purchase price and whatever their result give two weeks' notice of takeover.

Observers said that with the imminence of general elections scheduled for late June and the probable defeat of the Menachem Begin government, the company would probably stay totally independent, as the Labor opposition has said it would not nationalize it.

The government was so confident of winning supreme court approval that it had made arrangements to assume control of power supplies in the occupied territories. Police were on alert and company employees warned against staging protest strikes.

The company, the largest Arab-owned undertaking in the West Bank, supplies electricity to a large number of Israeli settlements and even some military bases, as well as the main Arab communities.

Company Chairman Anwar Nusseiba, a former Jordanian defense minister, said after the ruling: "I am very pleased. We are still on the right track. Ultimately, justice will be done. It is impossible to break up the company. It is one company and one concession whose generators are in the Jerusalem."

Zia praises nonaligned declaration on Afghanistan

ISLAMABAD, Feb. 16 (Agencies) — President Muhammad Zia ul-Haq has hailed the declaration by last week's nonaligned foreign ministers conference on the Afghan issue, describing it as a "victory" by Pakistan. Talking to press at Multan, about 550 kilometers southwest of here, Zia said Sunday that the New Delhi declaration was all the more important in view of the general impression that the Soviet Union had colossal influence over the nonaligned movement.

Despite many difficulties and pressures, Pakistan stuck to its four-point stand on Afghanistan, he said adding that Islamabad's demand for withdrawal of Soviet troops, restoration of the nonaligned and Islamic character of Afghanistan, installation of a representative government and honorable return home of about 1.5 million Afghan refugees was upheld twice at the United Nations as well as at the Islamic summit and the Islamic foreign ministers conferences.

Pakistan, he said, would continue its efforts through all other possible means toward a political solution of the Afghan issue.

Asked whether Iran supported Pakistan's stand on Afghanistan, he said he was working for the two countries to act together for the purpose. Iran's approach, he said, would be positive on the Afghan problem.

Earlier addressing officers and soldiers at the garrison town, Zia said the Pakistani armed forces were better prepared than



President Zia

before to meet any threat. "We want to live in peace with others, particularly with neighbors but at the same time, we cannot close our eyes to the developments taking place around us," Zia said. "It is imperative for our security and survival to keep our defense machinery well-oiled," he added.

Meanwhile, Jordan's Foreign Minister Marwan Al-Qassem described as "very fruitful" his talks Sunday with his Pakistani counterpart Agha Shahi on the results of the nonaligned conference. He said the restoration of Afghanistan to its traditional nonaligned status and withdrawal of foreign forces from the country were prerequisites for stability and security.

Sadat asks PLO to form govt.-in-exile

CAIRO, Feb. 16 (R) — President Anwar Sadat of Egypt has appealed to Palestinians to form a government in exile in an effort to stop hostilities with Israel and bring about "mutual recognition" between the two sides. Sadat, speaking to journalists Sunday after two hours of talks with Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, said all Palestinian factions, including those in the occupied areas and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), should meet to form "a responsible government."

He hoped this would end Palestinian actions against Israel and Israeli actions against the Palestinians and "create the favorable atmosphere needed for their mutual recognition."

Sadat said he discussed the issue with Kreisky but the Austrian chancellor told reporters: "I have not formed personal views yet. I need more time to evaluate the situation."

Kreisky said he was not mediating between Egypt and Israel or between Egypt and the rest of the Arab world. "Kreisky is playing an important role with the Palestinians because he is in constant contact with them," Sadat said. Kreisky said he hoped that after the Israeli elections on June 30, there would be a "more favorable political situation." Kreisky has good relations with Shimon Peres, leader of the Israeli Labor Party, which is expected to win the elections.

BRIEFS

LONDON, (AP) — Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini's representative in Kermanshah province has escaped an assassination attempt, according to Tehran Radio.

CAIRO, (R) — Three Palestinians and two Egyptians have been charged with trying to sabotage the Israeli embassy in Cairo.

ISLAMABAD, (AFP) — The Soviet ambassador to Pakistan Sunday stressed what he termed the need for an early meeting of the Colombo conference, under the aegis of the United Nations, on the issue of making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace.

TEL AVIV, (R) — Officials in the town of El-Bireh in the occupied West Bank north of Jerusalem have protested to the Israeli military authorities over the seizure of land nearby.

TEL AVIV, (R) — Unidentified gunmen opened fire early Sunday morning at a post held by the Fiji contingent of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) near the coastal town of Rashidiye but caused no casualties, a U.N. spokesman said.

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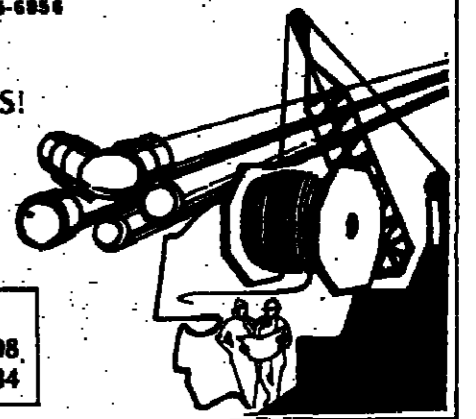
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Calls on Iran for talks

Saddam threatens to seize areas

BAGHDAD, Feb. 16 (R) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, in his strongest warnings so far in the Gulf war, has declared that Iraq would seize more Iranian territory unless the Tehran government started peace negotiations. Addressing reservist fighters Sunday before they went to the battle front, he said a current lull in the four-month-old conflict was designed to give Iran a chance to open peace talks.

But he said enough time had now been given to Iran to start negotiations. "You will see how more Iranian cities will fall to the Iraqi army in addition to those already under its control..." he said. He spoke two days before U.N. special envoy Olof Palme was due in Baghdad for the third time on a mediation mission.

The president said that Iraq would add new demands against Iran the longer the war went on. "The unnecessary addition to the length of the war will add further additional claims which that arrogant regime will have to pay

Separatist's death

Strike paralyzes northern Spain

BILBAO, Spain, Feb. 16 (Agencies) — Life in northern Spain's Basque country came to a standstill Monday as a general strike went underway to protest the death in police custody last week of an alleged member of the Basque Separatist Organization (ETA). Labor sources said the strike, called for by Basque nationalist and leftist parties, was practically total at noon in the three Basque provinces. The movement was also joined by the Navarre region, historically linked to the Basque country.

Last week 200,000 people turned out in a massive condemnation of the murder of a nuclear engineer by the military wing of the ETA. The Basque country Monday voiced

equal outrage at the death of the suspected ETA terrorist, Jose Arregui, with factions deserted, the pool here closed and transport brought to a halt. Food shops opened for two hours here to enable housewives to buy their requirements after the weekend and in factories and other places of work the trades unions organized meetings before workers officially downed tools.

Construction of the Lemoniz power station — broken off after ETA failed to have it demolished by kidnapping the engineer — was scheduled to resume Monday but was interrupted by the strike, which was backed by all trade unions and political parties except the ruling Democratic coalition and the con-

servative Popular Alliance. Some 300 people marched through the coastal town of San Sebastian in the morning, shouting anti-police and anti-government slogans. Political parties had chartered buses to bring people into towns from surrounding villages for the demonstration.

The strike also affected Pamplona, capital of the neighboring province of Navarre. Basque sources said the stoppages appeared to be more widespread than last Monday's general strike.

Arregui died in Madrid Friday after being detained for 10 days by police under anti-terrorist laws. A magistrate in charge of the case said the body showed signs of bruising and there were burns on the soles of the feet. There were demonstrations against Arregui's death in the three Basque capitals and smaller towns during the weekend. Stones and petrol bombs were thrown at government buildings and police armored vehicles.

In Bilbao early Sunday petrol bombs were thrown at the local headquarters of the moderate Basque Nationalist Party. No damage was caused and no one has so far claimed responsibility for the attack.



STUDENT UNREST: A Polish government delegation led by Education Minister Janusz Gorski arrives Sunday for talks with student leaders in Lodz, in an effort to end the students' sit-in strike.

Students end strike

Polish labor welcomes truce call

WARSAW, Feb. 16 (Agencies) — The independent trade union Solidarity Monday welcomed Prime Minister Wojciech Jaruzelski's call for a three-month truce without strikes as a genuine sign that the new government wanted cooperation, not blind obedience. In an interview with the newspaper *Ziemia Warszawska*, Solidarity spokesman Karol Modzelewski said that the union was taking Jaruzelski's call "most seriously" and viewed his words as ending a "dangerous trend" in national affairs.

The spokesman said that while his union could not afford to prejudice its credibility by making promises it might be forced to break, and would continue to work toward goals laid out in a resolution adopted last Thursday, Solidarity believed Jaruzelski genuinely wanted to safeguard social peace.

Modzelewski told the Warsaw daily that the government must now create the conditions that would permit Solidarity, in all honesty, to back its policies. He said that the new government must "win the respect of society

by its actions and by the way it exerts its powers".

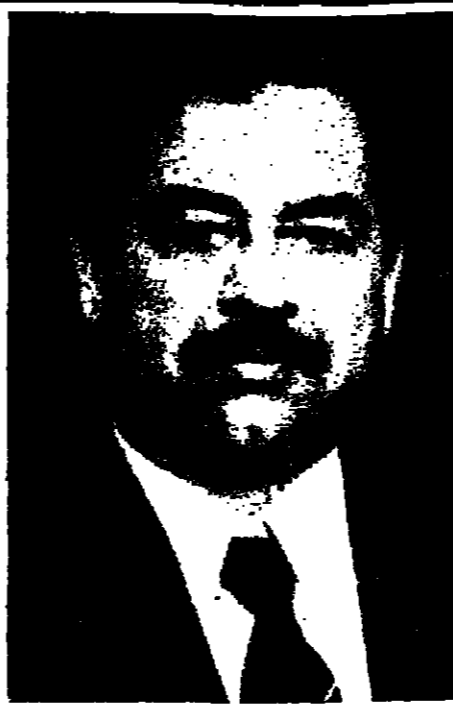
Asked whether Solidarity planned to renegotiate Gdansk agreements — which at the end of August paved the way for the independent union's recognition and ended weeks of economically disastrous strikes — the spokesman said that if the government had consistently treated the union as a partner, the population would have more readily accepted that in the current economic climate certain claims were overambitious.

Meanwhile, Poland's minister of higher education made an unusual appeal on national television Sunday night to striking students in Lodz to drop their threat for a nationwide strike if their demands are not met. Within minutes of the appeal, students holding a sit-in strike at the medical academy in support of the Lodz students announced they would end their strikes and called on other students to follow suit. They based their decision on the fear of jeopardizing a possible settlement in Lodz.

The latest warning to Tehran follows new fighting in the central sector of the battle front round the hilly Seif Saad area just 160kms east of Baghdad. Iran claims to have pushed Iraqi troops back in the rugged sector of western Ilam province.

Iran Sunday reported artillery duels with Iraqi forces around the cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr, and heavy fighting at several other points on the battlefield. A joint staff communique issued here said 80 Iraqis had been killed during fighting around Thenteteh heights inside Iraq. The heights were reported captured by Iranian forces Saturday. Iraqi troops killed 80 Iranians for the loss of 16 of their own men in fighting over 24 hours, the Iraqi news agency said Sunday night.

In a development, a number of civilians and revolutionary guards were wounded Saturday in clashes between rival factions in two Iranian towns in the Caspian Sea region. Newspapers reported in Tehran Sunday.



President Saddam Hussein

More persons involved in Hilton Hotel arson

LAS VEGAS, Feb. 16 (AP) — Arson investigators say they believe more than one person was involved in setting the fires that claimed eight lives at the Las Vegas Hilton Hotel.

At least one of the four fires may have been set by someone who "wanted to jump on the bandwagon" after the first blaze erupted, arson investigator Mike Patterson said Sunday.

A 23-year-old Hilton busboy, Philip Bruce Cline, allegedly told police he accidentally set the largest of the four fires that erupted in the east wing of the nation's largest hotel Tuesday. He was booked for investigation of murder and arson.

The \$10-million blaze injured 198 people. It followed by just three months an electrical fire at the MGM grand hotel in Las Vegas that killed 84 people.

Pakistan amends order to appease students

By Shahid Orakzai
Arab News Correspondent

ISLAMABAD, Feb. 16 — Amid increasing student violence the Pakistan government Monday announced an amendment to the university ordinance apparently to appease the agitating teachers and students. Radio Pakistan said the education minister had reached an agreement with representatives of the teachers for amending the controversial ordinance dubbed "black law" by students and striking teachers.

Meanwhile, educational institutions in the capital were closed Monday as student protest entered its third day. Anti-riot police patrolled the city as groups of angry students attempted to block the traffic by hurling stones on public vehicles. No major violence was reported Monday. Two buses were set ablaze by students who were protesting police atrocities on students in Multan city, southern Punjab province, Saturday.

The situation was reported under control as the administration in Lahore, capital of

Punjab, Sunday banned slogan rallies and assembly of more than four persons. Official press notes about such incidents did not give any detail of the damage to public and private property caused by the student violence. Police tear-gassed rioting students and arrested a number of them.

Unofficial sources said some leaders of defunct political parties had been placed under house arrest with apprehensions that they were fanning the student violence for political objectives. Nine political parties opposing the military rule of Gen. Zia-ul-Haq formed an alliance on Feb. 6 and called for immediate elections within 90 days, a promise Zia could not keep after he captured power in a coup in July 1977.

In Multan, Zia Sunday ruled out elections saying the country could ill afford them in view of the developments around Pakistan. He said those demanding general elections failed to "realise the gravity of the situation which the country faces in view of external threats."

Peking accuses Moscow

Afghan corridor annexed

PEKING, Feb. 16 (R) — China Monday accused the Soviet Union of having annexed the strategic Wakhan corridor which links Afghanistan with China and separates the Soviet Union from Pakistan. The government weekly *Peking Review* quoted an unidentified report from New Delhi as saying Soviet troops had taken over the so-called Wakhan "panhandle" toward the end of last year, realizing an ambition of the 19th century Russian Tsars.

"In the second half of last year, the Soviet Union moved quickly and decisively to annex the Wakhan corridor of Afghanistan," the English-language weekly said. "Russian troops, mostly from neighboring Soviet Kazakhstan, were moved in and the Afghan

tribesmen living in this area were gradually driven out."

The *Peking Review* added: "By all indications, the Soviets are systematically preparing to keep this area under their permanent control, for the Soviet annexation of the Wakhan salient pushes the Russian border right up to Pakistan. This is an ominous sign."

The magazine said more than 4,000 Soviet troops were now in the mountainous area, which averages 15,000 feet above sea level, many of them patrolling passes leading to China and Pakistan. They had built underground bunkers, permanent barracks and ground-to-ground missile sites and widened a strategic road.

Nkomo men defy orders

SALISBURY, Feb. 16 (AFP) — Former guerrillas loyal to Joshua Nkomo, minority leader in Zimbabwe's coalition government, Monday continued to defy government orders that they should hand in their weapons before being moved to a new camp outside the city. Nkomo, meanwhile, said that senior officers from his ZIPRA (Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army) forces would meet his men later in the day in an attempt to resolve the deadlock, which followed bloody clashes between rival groups of former guerrillas in the city last week.

Between 1,500 and 2,000 former guerrillas from the ZANLA (Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army) forces of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe were Sunday disarmed and moved to a new camp without incident. But between 2,000 and 3,000 pro-Nkomo guerrillas have so far rejected a government ruling that they must hand in their weapons before they move to a new camp, well away from the ZANLA forces.

Clashes between ZIPRA and ZANLA guerrillas in Bulawayo last week and further fierce fighting between ZIPRA and government forces, sent in to contain the fighting, claimed more than 200 lives in the city and left more than 300 people injured.

The unclaimed bodies of 153 people killed in the fighting, most of them former guerrillas, were examined Sunday by Bulawayo residents looking for lost relatives. The authorities issued death certificates for 26 bodies that were positively identified.

A government spokesman, meanwhile, said those not identified by noon Monday will be buried "in the interests of public health". The bodies have been stored for several days in railway refrigeration cars because the city mortuary was full.

1 dies in Karachi blast

KARACHI, Feb. 16 (AP) — Three persons were injured, one fatally, when an explosive device went off at Karachi's National Stadium minutes before Pope Paul II was to arrive, witnesses said. "It was an explosion but we don't know what it was," said a doctor who examined the victims. "One man definitely was dead. His whole abdomen was burst open."

Conductor Richter dies

MUNICH, Feb. 16 (AP) — Conductor Karl Richter, best known for his presentations of the works of composer Johann Sebastian Bach, was found dead Sunday in a Munich hotel, the victim of an apparent heart attack. Richter studied music in Leipzig and emigrated to Munich in 1951. There he founded a Bach choir, which he led for a number of years.

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